

Fear of mainland IRA campaign

Soldier killed by rush-hour London bomb

By Staff Reporters

AN ARMY sergeant was killed yesterday after a bomb "smashed to smithereens" a military van in Wembley, north-west London. A motorcyclist was seen speeding away after the explosion.

The blast, two days after the IRA attacked the Army education directorate headquarters in the capital, was the fourth mainland attack this year and increased fears of an intensification in the IRA's campaign. Thirteen people have been killed in attacks in the past 21 months.

Mr Archie Hamilton, Minister of State for the Armed Forces, said that Britain appeared to be the target of a new IRA campaign of terror and gave a warning that no military installation in the country was safe from attack. "This is another terrible outrage," he said. "This is an attack which has shown no interest in people's lives, people have been indiscriminately wounded in the rush-hour."

The Wembley device, which exploded at 5.12 pm, was believed to have been clamped to the underside of the van that had been parked all day in an alley at the rear of an Army careers information office in Thurlow Gardens, near the junction with the Harrow Road shopping centre, half a mile from Wembley stadium. The two victims were getting into the vehicle when the bomb went off. Had it exploded 24 hours later, the street would have been

thronged with supporters going to the FA Cup Final replay.

The injured man, who suffered shrapnel wounds to his legs, staggered into the street after the blast and warned bystanders to move away in case there was another bomb. He was later taken to Northwick Park hospital, where his condition last night was said to be stable.

Police cordoned off a wide area around the scene as bomb squad officers arrived, and helicopters hovered above after the Civil Aviation Authority ordered a mile and half high exclusion zone.

Mr Peter Kay, a painter and decorator aged 20, said he saw the bomb go off. "I saw the van blown up," he said. "It was totally wrecked. The man inside was dead and another man was wandering about stunned and shocked. All his face was burnt. He came and told all of us to move back. He said there might be another bomb. I saw a hand on the crossing of Ealing Road and Lancelot Road, the police covered it with a blanket."

Mr Michael Ryan, a carpenter aged 28, said: "I just saw one guy stumbling out, his face and all his clothing was completely blackened. Blood was coming out of his mouth." Mr Ryan said that immediately after the blast "everyone rushed over to see what had happened. This guy was just shouting out 'get the hell out of the way'."

A London ambulance spokesman said: "The vehicle was smashed to smithereens. It had been blown up in the air and was unrecognizable." Three people suffering from shock refused treatment and were giving statements to the police.

Mr Colin Baggett, who heard the blast from his office, said the explosion did not appear to have caused much damage to buildings although it had broken windows. "There was a little bit of panic. There were a few ladies running around in a very bad state of shock."

On Monday, seven people were injured when an IRA bomb buried in a flower bed exploded outside the front door of the Directorate of Army Education headquarters in Eltham, south London. Commander George Churchill-Coleman, head of Scotland Yard's anti-terrorist squad said then: "This may only be the start of several further devices going off in different parts of the country."

The Wembley bombing comes within 24 hours of an impassioned plea for peace and reconciliation in Northern Ireland at the funeral of Cardinal Tomás Ó Fiaich in Armagh and amid new hopes that inter-party talks in Ulster could lead to a substantial improvement in the political climate of the province.

Mr Gerry Adams, president of Sinn Féin, the Provisional IRA's political wing and Mr Martin McGuinness, a senior republican, were among more than 1,000 mourners who heard Dr Cahal Daly, Bishop of Down and Connor, condemn all use of violence in pursuit of the aims of Irish nationalism. Dr Daly appealed to Mr Adams and his followers to "listen at last in death to this plea (for peace) from the heart of the great Irishman who was Tomás Ó Fiaich".

The bombings are not expected to deflect the Government from its determination to create the conditions for dialogue between the constitutional parties in Northern Ireland. Recent weeks have seen signs of progress by Mr Peter Brooke, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, with attention focused on the preconditions which Unionist leaders have laid down before being prepared to entertain the possibility of talks with the Social Democratic and Labour Party.

It is generally accepted that two of the three steps required of the Government by Mr James Molyneux, leader of the Ulster Unionist Party, and Mr Ian Paisley, the Democratic Unionist Party leader, have been met. These are that the Government publicly declares its willingness to seek an alternative to the Anglo-Irish agreement, and secondly that it agrees to a suspension of Anglo-Irish conference meetings to enable talks to begin.

A third condition that civil servants at the Anglo-Irish secretariat at Maryfield outside Belfast be redeployed for the duration of talks, is regarded as the principal stumbling block to further progress.



Where's the beef? Mr John Gummer pressing a burger on his daughter Cordelia, aged four, at Colchester yesterday to underline his contention that the meat is safe

Iran says no to UK talks

By Andrew McEwen
Diplomatic Editor

IRAN yesterday refused a British offer to hold a brief meeting between officials to break the diplomatic ice between the two countries. Its decision was a setback after encouraging signs that direct talks might be imminent, and almost certainly reflects opposition from hardliners in Tehran.

The British Government had told a Foreign Office official to try to make contact with an Iranian delegation which held talks yesterday with representatives of three European Community countries. Mr Jeremy Greenstock, deputy political director at the Foreign Office, was asked to make the approach after the Iran-EC meeting. Whitehall sources said the Foreign Office had been given to understand that the Iranian delegation would be willing to see Mr Greenstock, but in the event they refused.

The British move followed hints that both sides might be nearly ready to move from indirect to direct talks. But in both capitals there are some who oppose a closer relationship. A radical Iranian newspaper yesterday stepped up pressure on President Rafsanjani not to make any concessions by calling for the execution of Mr Roger Cooper, the British businessman held in Iran.

Whitehall sources underlined that Mr Greenstock had been instructed only to seek a "brief meeting" which should not be construed as the opening of direct talks.

MPs launch beef inquiry

By Michael Hornsby and Sheila Gann

AN URGENT parliamentary inquiry was launched yesterday in an attempt to dispel widening public anxiety about a possible threat to human beings from the "mad cow" disease which has led to beef being taken off the menu in hundreds of schools.

Mr John Gummer, the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, who was photographed tucking into a beefburger at a function in his Suffolk constituency, said he would be happy to co-operate with the inquiry and repeated his belief that British beef is "perfectly safe".

That judgement was supported by Sir Donald Acheson, the Government's Chief Medical Officer. Sir Donald said that after taking advice from leading scientific and medical experts he had no hesitation in asserting that beef can be eaten safely by everyone, both adults and children, including patients in hospital. The inquiry, which



Sir Donald: "Beef is safe for everyone to eat"

Ministers at odds over loss of 770 steel jobs

By Kerry Gill and Robin Oakley

CLEAR differences emerged between Mr Malcolm Rifkind and some of his Cabinet colleagues last night over British Steel's plans to close the Ravenscraig strip mill in Motherwell next year with the loss of 770 jobs.

Condemnation of the decision from all quarters in Scotland was led by Mr Rifkind, the Secretary of State, and was accompanied by claims that Scottish steel production would end within four years.

British Steel is to spend £83 million on its Llanwern works, an investment similar to that at Port Talbot, so that its strip products division could take full advantage of modernized facilities in South Wales. While the company said it would try to find new jobs for the men in the Motherwell area, it added: "The impact of the continuous casting investments at Port Talbot and Llanwern will, in due course, also affect steel production at Ravenscraig so that production of steel at that works beyond 1994 will be dependent upon the economic and commercial scene and the demand for steel slabs."

Answering a private notice question from his Labour shadow Mr Donald Dewar, Mr Rifkind said he deplored the proposed closure and appealed for politicians in all parties to unite in pressing a sober commercial case on British Steel for keeping the hot strip mill open. Earlier he had called the decision arbitrary and unreasonable.

Mr Rifkind's remarks were seen in the Department of Trade and Industry as amounting to "labourspeak", appearing to condemn a straight commercial decision as an act of social and economic vandalism. It was

made clear that Mr Nicholas Ridley, the Secretary of State, had nothing to do with the wording of Mr Rifkind's statement, and it was noticeable during trade and industry questions that Mr Douglas Hogg, one of Mr Ridley's junior ministers, was much less ready to condemn British Steel than was Mr Rifkind.

Other government sources agreed the Ravenscraig action was a free commercial decision that the Government had no power to prevent. There was, however, some sympathy for Mr Rifkind personally among his colleagues who agreed that with the Conservatives in a various position in Scotland, he was under pressure to react vigorously over the loss of a tallisman of Scottish politics.

Mr George Younger, who as Secretary of State for Scotland had opposed previous closure plans for Ravenscraig, said: "This decision should not be accepted and we should demand to see the reasoned case for closure, if such exists."

Mr Rifkind was told of the decision by Sir Robert Scholley, the British Steel chairman, on Tuesday. In a series of interviews yesterday, he accused the company of letting down a loyal workforce and said it had failed to produce the commercial justification for the proposed closure. But opposition MPs accused him of spinelessness for not having done more to foresee and prevent the closure. In particular, they criticized him for not having met Sir Robert for seven months.

Mr Dewar was swift to remind the Scottish Secretary

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Oil clean-up dispute

OIL from the holed super-tanker Rose Bay hit more than 15 miles of the south Devon coast yesterday amid mounting criticism of the clean-up operation from environmental groups.

The cost of the operation to remove hundreds of tons of oil from holiday beaches will be met "totally by the polluter", Mr Patrick McLoughlin, the minister with responsibility for shipping, told the Commons last night. Emergency

workers were still struggling to contain the spillage, fearing that onshore winds could drive more oily sludge onto beaches so far unaffected.

Greenpeace criticized the attempt to clean up the oil as "unco-ordinated", although the most sensitive wildlife areas appeared so far to have escaped serious damage.

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Lonrho to sue Tebbit

Lonrho has issued a writ against Mr Norman Tebbit, Trade and Industry Secretary at the time of the takeover of House of Fraser by the Fayed brothers five years ago. Lonrho accuses Mr Tebbit of negligence and abuse of his powers and claims damages for the loss of Lonrho's opportunity to bid for House of Fraser.

Howe warning

The economic "soft landing" for which the Government had been aiming was proving bumpy, Sir Geoffrey Howe said yesterday. Pay and costs must be controlled.

Double loss

The world of showbusiness was last night mourning the death of Sammy Davis Jr, the entertainer, who died at the age of 64 from throat cancer (report, page 19), and Jim Henson, creator of the Muppets, who died suddenly in New York (page 3).

Arms scheme

The former deputy chairman of Ferranti International, Mr James Guerin, was behind an illegal scheme to export weapons to South Africa, according to FBI evidence.

Missing link

A missing link between reptile-like creatures known as pelycosaurs, which thrived more than 320 million years ago, and their descendants, from which mammals were derived, has been identified.

Leeds inflation

Leeds United, newly promoted to the first division, has more than doubled the cost of season tickets.

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US upset by Moscow line on Baltic states

By Our Foreign Staff

MR JAMES Baker, the US Secretary of State, yesterday deplored the Kremlin's refusal to talk to the Baltic republics. He said in Moscow that he would press Soviet leaders to explain why they had not begun discussions with Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia.

"It's not encouraging to us to see the absence of a dialogue. We would like to see this resolved in a peaceful manner," Mr Baker said as he stood beside Mr Eduard Shevardnadze, the Soviet Foreign Minister, before the first meeting of his visit.

in Moscow for four days of talks to prepare for the Bush-Gorbachev summit in Washington at the end of this month.

President Bush said in Washington yesterday that the crisis over Lithuania's declaration of independence "certainly puts some tension on the summit". He said: "I'd like to see the relief of that economic pressure on Lithuania. That would clear the air fast. But until something like that happens, there will be tension."

The US Secretary of State is

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Five Saatchi directors quit to form rival firm

By Richard Evans
Media Editor

SAATCHI and Saatchi, the trouble-hit communications group, was rocked last night by the resignation of five senior directors from its London advertising agency, who are to form a rival company.

The five, together with three other members of the breakaway team, claim to have been responsible for around £72 million or 20 per cent of Saatchi annual billings and £15 million of new business over the past two years. All five directors were Saatchi "born and bred", with more than 50 working years' experience at London's biggest agency. The new agency is to be called Cowan, Kemsley, Taylor Ltd. Another breakaway is strongly rumoured. Mr Paul Cowan, Saatchi's most experi-

enced group account director and manager of the new agency, said yesterday: "We believe room exists for a lean and fit agency. We want to recapture the original Saatchi spirit and advertising values."

Mr Cowan, aged 38, told Mr Paul Bainsfair and Mr Bill Muirhead, managing director and chairman of the Saatchi agency, about the mass defections last night. Other directors going are Mr Adrian Kemsley, the creative executive at Saatchi with most awards and a board member since 1988; Miss Maggie Taylor, a board member since 1987 and recently promoted to divisional planning director; Mr Josh Dovey, promoted to the board in 1988 and broadcast director at Zenith Media; and Mr Charlie Makin, media group director since 1988.

Earlier this month Mr Terry Bannister and Mr Roy Warman left Saatchi and Saatchi, two years after they were appointed to the advertising group's main board, while Mr John Sharkey resigned this week as deputy chairman of Saatchi and Saatchi Advertising International. In the mid- and late-1980s, the agency lost some of the sharpness, dynamism and entrepreneurial spirit which had contributed towards its success.

Although the new Cowan, Kemsley, Taylor agency will be starting from scratch at a time when the advertising industry is coming to terms with harsh economic realities, the partners' experience and previous association with top accounts could pose problems for their former employer.

Mr Cowan's account group at Saatchi, formed in 1987, expanded

its turnover from £4.5 million to £44 million with campaigns ranging from Rascal Vodafone and the Solid Fuel Campaign to Reckitt and Coleman and the launch of Plax in the UK. The creative partners in the new agency have scooped 22 industry awards since 1984.

Mr Bainsfair attempted last night to put a brave face on yesterday's developments. "I don't see it as a major problem as far as the running of the agency is concerned. Obviously I am very sad because I know these people personally, but on the other hand they are not leaving here with any business. They are not taking any accounts with them."

He emphasized that the agency had 70 directors, so the resignations would not have the impact normally associated with a company's board.

Critics blamed as 'King' closes

Mr Andrew Stephens, from Stratford-upon-Avon, said: "We might as well give up and turn the place into a golf course. There's no money to be made in beef and you can be sure the Government won't help. They think we still call them Daisy and Buttercup and do it for fun."

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Broken fan blade fell into engine of crash jet

By Harvey Elliott

FOR more than 15 minutes, the British Midland jet which crashed on to the M1 flew with a 9in piece of broken fan blade lodged harmlessly in the sound proofing at the front of its engine, the inquest into the 47 victims of the crash was told yesterday.

Gradually, the blade shook itself free when the jet was within 2½ miles of the runway, falling into the rapidly rotating fan and beginning a "cascading failure" of other parts which wrecked the damaged engine as the jet, under almost no power, smashed into an embankment. Mr Christopher Pollard, an air accident investigator, told the inquest jury in Loughborough that "had it stayed in the acoustic lining, there is no reason to suppose the engine would not have produced sufficient power to land safely".

The broken blade was just one in a long and complex series of events which took investigators more than a year to unravel in one of the most intensive pieces of air accident detective work and whose results, the jury was told by Mr Edward Trimble, the chief investigator, would prove "a milestone in aviation safety". Mr Pollard described how the fan blade broke as the air-

craft reached cruising height, unbalancing the fan and causing the blades to rub against a material on the rim of the engine. This was sucked into the hottest part of the engine, becoming a "huge and dramatic gout of flame which could have been as long as 25ft".

The engine then stabilized and continued under very low power almost normally although it was still unbalanced. Only when more power was sought did the broken blade shake itself free and fall into the engine, breaking into dozens of pieces some of which were found in the piggery of an agricultural college.

A team of five investigators gradually rebuilt the fan from dozens of pieces and subjected it to metalurgical tests until they found precisely which blade had broken. At first, they did not realize that all engines of that type were at risk of failure and assumed that there was a fault in one particular blade. Only when two other aircraft had similar failures did they decide there was "a generic problem".

Tests at the engine manufacturers eventually proved that the failure had been caused by aerodynamic vibrations set up under the particular conditions of climb, altitude and power although none of the tests conducted by CFM International in France showed vibration levels sufficient to lead to catastrophe.

Mr Pollard said that the engine - a CFM 56-3C - had not been tested in flight but had been subjected to intensive tests on the ground. Until this accident, engine manufacturers had always discovered potential problems by simulating take-offs and landings and high altitude flight. He said that the reason the engine had not been tested on the ground and not in flight was because of the need to attach monitoring instruments to many parts to establish just where any potential problems might lie.

"This is the first incident where such a test has failed to reveal such vibration," Mr Pollard said. "It invalidates the test although I am satisfied that the methods used by the company were satisfactory. With hindsight, the increase in power required by the 33 engine proved to be significant."

When the blade first failed, the engine began a series of "stalls" which eventually stabilized when the pilots throttled back both engines. Unfortunately, they believed that the right hand engine was the one giving the trouble and closed it down when in fact it was the left hand engine. When they asked for more power, it vibrated so strongly that fuel and oil pipes shook themselves loose, allowing oil and fuel to gather in the hot part of the engine and cause a fire. The inquest continues today.

Officer's convictions quashed

By David Young

A NAVAL officer who was found guilty of two charges of ill-treating a fellow officer during a survival training exercise has had his court martial convictions quashed.

Lieutenant Gordon Smith, aged 36, was tried in February at Portsmouth charged with the ill-treatment of Lt Simon Rowland, contrary to Section 36A of the Naval Discipline Act 1957. Lt Rowland, of Newton Abbot, Dorset, collapsed during a training exercise supervised by Lt Smith, an instructor at the Royal Navy Survival Equipment School in Hampshire.

The court martial was told that Lt Smith pulled the then Sub-Lt Rowland by the hair and punched him on the back of the head after he collapsed with heatstroke. The officer, aged 23, spent 15 days in a coma.

The MoD said yesterday that the Admiralty Board had concluded that the convictions verdict might not have been reached if it had been directed in accordance with a Court of Appeal judgement and so must be regarded as unsafe. It has directed that they be quashed.

Henson, creator of the Muppets, dies aged 53



The puppet man: Jim Henson surrounded by his creations - Miss Piggy, Kermit, the ever reluctant target of her affections, and, from *The Dark Crystal*, Treasurer Skekss

From James Bone
New York

MR JIM Henson, the puppeteer who made learning fun for the television generation by creating the Muppets, died unexpectedly at a New York hospital yesterday after being admitted 21 hours earlier as an emergency patient. The hospital said that Mr Henson, aged 53, died of a bacterial infection.

Mr Henson, who was born in Greenville, Mississippi, fell in love with puppetry as a teenager. Friends said he was the kind of child who watched Peter Pan fly but always kept an eye on the strings to see how it was done. In the 1950s, he crossed puppets with marionettes to create Kermit the Frog, Miss Piggy and the ever-complaining Oscar the Grouch, and they made their debut on a local television station in Washington DC in 1959.

The lovable foam-rubber and flannel characters became international superstars, however, only when they began to

appear in 1969 on the hit children's television show *Sesame Street*. The show aimed to teach mathematics and English to children between one and five years old, but its all-too-human cast made it an instant hit with adults, reawakening interest in the art of puppetry. It is now seen regularly in more than 80 countries.

Peggy Charren, founder of Action for Children's Television in Cambridge, Massachusetts, said of Mr Henson: "He could make you laugh while you're crying."

Mr Henson, the voice of Kermit, did not achieve his ambition for a separate *The Muppets Show* until he took the act to Britain in the 1970s and got the backing of Lord Grade. His support helped attract such guest stars as Bob Hope and Frank Sinatra.

The Muppets moved to the United States and received immediate syndication. Televised since 1976, it reaches an audience of some 235 million viewers in 100 countries, with Russia soon to join its audi-

ence. It has won two television Emmys.

As well as puppets, Mr Henson was a master animator. His first animated series, *Muppet Babies*, won four consecutive Emmy Awards starting in 1984 and is at present in its sixth season on CBS-TV. The show is broadcast in more than 50 countries. Scheduled for release later this year is *The Witches*, a feature film based on a story by Roald Dahl.

Mr Henson collaborated on his projects with his wife, Jane, one of his former puppetry students. The two, who have five children, worked from an office and factory in two converted buildings on East 69th Street, Manhattan.

The Hensons' townhouse in New York is something of a local legend because of its unique decoration. It boasts a Kermit the Frog telephone, papier-mâché Mooseheads, Miss Piggy wallpaper and even a Kermit portrait in the style of Gainsborough.

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Police accused of neglecting murder victims' families

By Quentin Cowdry, Home Affairs Correspondent

FAMILIES of murder victims are often neglected or treated with insensitivity by the police and other criminal justice agencies, according to a report published yesterday which calls for a comprehensive support service.

The report, which cites examples of blood-stained clothing being returned to relatives in bags marked "contaminated - health risk", and of burials and cremations being delayed for up to three months, says families suffering violent bereavement need to be better understood, better informed and given more choice in questions such as who should identify the body.

Victim Support, which carried out the research, says the intense grief such families feel is made worse by their con-

tact, or more often, lack of contact, with social services, the police, courts and the Crown Prosecution Service. More than 75 per cent of the 80 families who participated in the charity's two-year research complained about the police's failure to provide them quickly with full details of how the victim died. Several had first learnt about the murder through the media.

The report says relatives need to be kept better informed about the dates of inquests, court hearings, changes in charges and the reasons behind them. They should also be told when the murderer is released from prison.

The research cites two cases in which the victims' families only discovered the killers had been released when relatives

saw them in the street. Families should be told precisely how the victim had died, even where the death had been brutal. More than half those interviewed felt betrayed by being given patchy details.

The researchers call for the creation of an advisory and counselling service led by Victim Support and makes 20 recommendations. These include calls for coroners to restrict the defence to one post-mortem examination, stipulating the last date by which it should be conducted; for the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board to increase awards to families and consider meeting funeral expenses automatically; and for an officer to be assigned in each case to tell relatives of police progress.

Anglo-Catholics oppose Habgood

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Editor

ANGLO-CATHOLIC leaders in the Church of England have made it clear they would not welcome the appointment of the Archbishop of York, Dr John Habgood, as the next Archbishop of Canterbury. Conservative evangelical leaders have already indicated their disapproval.

In a statement to be sent to the Crown Appointments Commission, the Church Union - the principal Anglo-Catholic organization - has demanded that the commission should ensure that the two names submitted to the Prime Minister should "accept unequivocally the authority of Holy Scripture and the doctrines enshrined in the historic creeds of the Catholic Church and the official formularies of the Church of England".

A leading member of the Church Union said the criteria were designed to exclude Dr Habgood, on the assumption that his refusal to interpret such doctrines as the Virgin

Birth in a strictly literal sense amounted to a rejection of the authority of Scripture and the creeds. That is not, however, a point Dr Habgood himself has ever conceded, and he recently stated on television that he believed the doctrine as defined in the creed.

Leaders of the Church Union had a private meeting



Dr Habgood: Scepticism over his biblical views

recently at which they discussed possible successors to Dr Robert Runcie, from which their statement emanated. The indications were that their first preference was for the Bishop of Winchester, the Right Rev Colin James, who is himself an Anglo-Catholic.

Among non-Anglo Catholics, the candidacy of the Bishop of Chelmsford, the Right Rev John Weir, was regarded as very supportable; and there have been hints that the titular leader of the Anglo-Catholics in the Church of England, the Bishop of London, Dr Graham Leonard, also inclines towards Bishop Weir.

The Church Union leadership was apparently not enthusiastic towards Dr Robert Eames, the Archbishop of Armagh, whose place in the selection process is bound to be affected by the imminent decision of the Church of Ireland to start ordaining women. The General Synod

meets in Dublin today for a final decision, after the passing of a church Bill by a two-thirds majority on Tuesday. That may make Dr Eames more attractive as a candidate for those who support the ordination of women in England, but even less so to opponents, including members of the Church Union.

The Anglican Evangelical Assembly passed a resolution at its annual meeting last week which was also interpreted as against Dr Habgood. It called for an Archbishop of Canterbury who was "biblically grounded" with a "Christ-centred orthodox theology".

In his speech to the Dublin synod before Tuesday's vote, Dr Eames avoided trying to influence the Synod decision, but pointed to the "sharp division" throughout the Anglican communion on this issue. The vote was carried overwhelmingly among the laity, but only just obtained a two-thirds majority among the clergy.

Runaway wagon kills four

By Mark Souster

LONDON Underground has launched an inquiry into the deaths of four workmen who were crushed to death while carrying out maintenance work yesterday. The Railway Inspectorate has also been informed.

The accident happened at 2am as the men worked on a section of overground track shared with British Rail, between Chorleywood and Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire, on the Metropolitan Line. Rush hours services were disrupted.

The men are understood to have died when they were hit by a trailer wagon weighing 18 tons which had rolled down an incline for about a mile. The wagon then collided with a tamping machine, used to pack down ballast between track sleepers.

Mr Alan Osborne, London Underground's safety services manager who will head the inquiry, said the noise from the tamping machine would have drowned out the approach of the wagon, which should have been parked with its brakes on.

He said: "This sort of accident has never happened on London Underground before. We put a lot of emphasis on safety and so we want to get to the bottom of how this was caused."

The dead men, who were part of a nine-strong team, were named as Mr Patrick O'Connor, aged 52, Mr Melvin Pounder, aged 41, Mr Dean Newell, aged 22, all underground staff from London, and Mr Ernest Clark, aged 40, from Scotland, the owner of the machine, which was on hire.

£7,500 award for beaten Maze escaper

By Edward Gorman
Irish affairs correspondent

A PRISONER assaulted by staff at the Maze top security jail after the mass escape by IRA men in 1983 was awarded record compensation of £7,500 yesterday. The award to Joseph Simpson, aged 38, of Andersonstown, west Belfast, was announced at the High Court in Belfast after the settlement of his case against the Northern Ireland office, which did not admit liability but agreed to pay costs estimated at £5,000.

The award brings to £45,500 the total paid in compensation to prisoners in the jail at the time of the breakout and solicitors believe it sets a new benchmark for the 18 claims still outstanding. One leading Belfast solicitor said: "This very

much ups the ante for the rest of them, although each case is assessed individually. Obviously Simpson's injuries were serious enough to merit a substantial sum."

Other experienced observers interpreted the award as evidence that the Government had decided to offer substantial settlements to avoid further political embarrassment over the affair. It was the first award since a Supreme Court judgement in Dublin in March when two IRA men, who escaped from the Maze, were set free on grounds that they could face ill-treatment by officers at the jail on their return.

The court quoted extensively from a judgement by Sir Brian Hurion, the Lord Chief Justice in Northern Ireland, in an earlier Maze compensation claim in

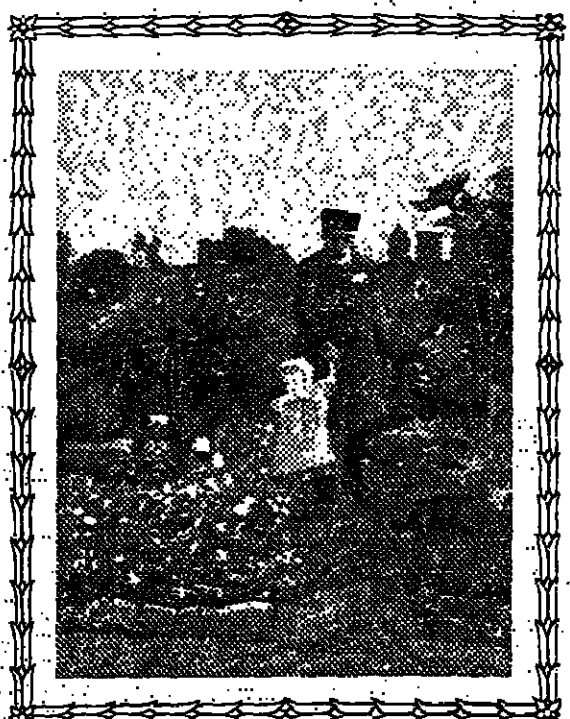
which he said that not only had the prisoner in question been ill-treated but prison officers had lied to the court. Simpson is due for release in 1993 after completing a 20-year sentence for attempted murder which was increased by five years for escaping.

He claimed he was punched and kicked by prison staff after being brought back to the Maze after escaping. He also said he was dragged along the ground while wearing only underpants and pushed into a door frame, causing a head wound which required stitches.

Simpson is the first of 19 claims brought by prisoners who escaped. Last January, 22 prisoners who failed to break out were awarded a total of £38,000 for injuries received at the hands of prison officers.

Summer Gardens Number

COUNTRY LIFE



Summer Gardens

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COUNTRY LIFE

EVERY THURSDAY

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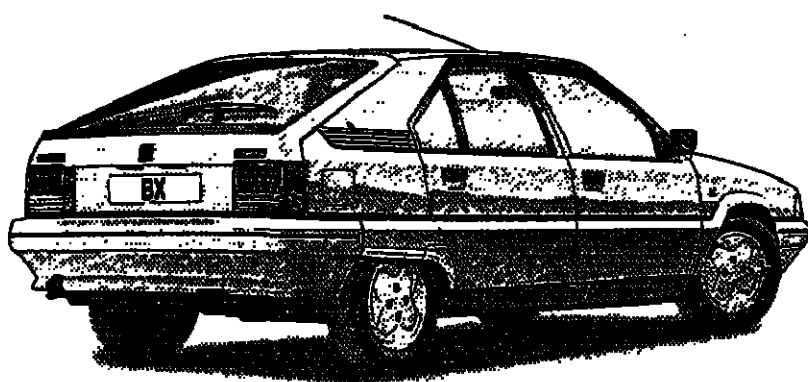
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Lords press for language teaching in infant school

By Sheila Gann, Political Reporter

BRITISH schoolchildren will stand little chance of competing on equal terms within the European Community while there is a shortage of teachers and an instinctive resistance at all levels of society to learning foreign languages, a House of Lords committee says today.

The peers recommend urgent action to encourage pupils of all abilities to learn at least one or two foreign languages from primary school age through to the end of their secondary school education.

In particular, the Lords European Communities committee demands that the attitude of British society towards modern foreign language learning must change. "The committee call on the Government to launch a campaign bringing together all strands of current European awareness advertising in the context of the completion of the internal market and uttering the death knell of the monoglot tradition of English society."

"Teachers and pupils, parents and politicians, employers and employees must all be made aware of the vital importance of modern foreign language learning as a means of communication and cross-cultural understanding and as an aid to business and overseas trade," it says.

The committee, chaired by Lady Lockwood, holds out little hope of improving foreign language education while there is a shortage of at least 1,750 qualified modern language teachers - the equivalent to 11 per cent - which is considered by peers to be a conservative estimate.

"The shortage of modern foreign language teachers in the UK has already reached crisis level and is likely to worsen," it says. "Urgent action is needed on the three main sources of complaint by teachers: status, conditions and pay." The committee recommends special schemes to encourage qualified teachers with children back to the

classroom by providing flexible working hours and the employment of qualified teachers from other EC nations.

The report also criticizes the Government's legislation preventing schools from charging for many outside activities which, teachers' organizations told the committee, is stopping exchange visits and school trips abroad.

The peers found that the number of pupils taking A level French, for example, has fallen by more than 10 per cent in eight years to 18,000. More girls than boys took language examinations.

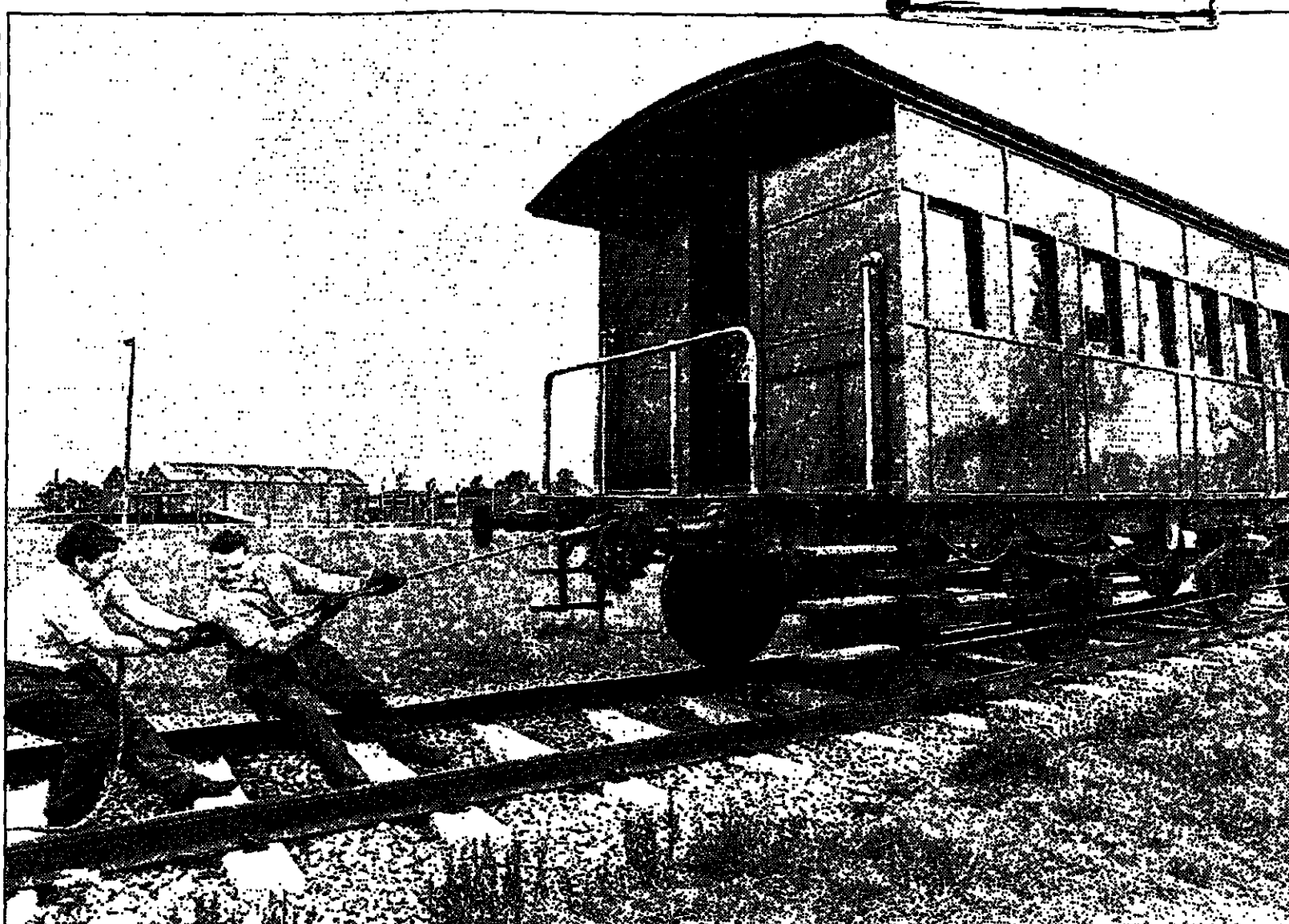
The committee concludes: "The UK stands out amongst the member states for its poor provision of modern foreign language teaching in the primary sector." There was widespread evidence that languages were learnt more easily and accents acquired more perfectly at a young age.

● A £3 million package of educational programmes intended to prepare British people for the language, business and consumer challenges posed by Europe and 1992 was launched yesterday by the BBC (Richard Evans writes).

The initiative coincides with a Gallup survey carried out for the BBC which shows that while 86 per cent of the British public think that European Community affairs are important for the UK, three out of four people do not feel well informed about what the Single European Market in 1992 means for Britain.

Radio and television programmes will range over languages, business and the effects of the single market on the individual. *You and 92*, a television series of 10 programmes, each of 35 minutes, explores Britain's readiness for 1992.

European Schools and Language Learning in UK Schools, House of Lords Select Committee on European Communities, 13th report (Stationery Office, £15.45)



Mr Trevor Robert (left) and Mr Kevin Rose hauling a carriage yesterday used by Kitchener in the Sudan campaigns of the 1890s. It is being transferred from a Ministry of Defence site in Shoeburyness, Essex, to the Museum of Army Transport in Beverley, Humberside

TV campaign aims to lure teachers back to class

By Douglas Broom, Education Reporter

MR JOHN MacGregor, Secretary of State for Education, yesterday defended a £2.2 million advertising campaign to recruit teachers.

Dismissing suggestions that the money should have been spent on improving teachers' pay, he said the advertisements would help to raise the standing of the teaching profession in the public eye.

"If we had put the money into teachers' pay it would have produced a minuscule effect. Criticism of this campaign is wholly misplaced. We would have deserved criticism if we had not done it."

The campaign, produced by the advertising agency Saatchi and Saatchi, started with advertisements on TV South, Thames and Central Television before *News at Ten* last

night. Viewers saw pupils learning about chemistry and French from teachers who are clearly friendly and committed. The slogan for the campaign is "Teaching brings out the best in people."

There will also be a series of national newspaper advertisements featuring classroom photographs including a boy aged 14 gazing amorously at a girl companion. The caption says: "It's quite a challenge making fractional distillation more interesting than sex."

Mr MacGregor said: "There has never been a better time to become a teacher. The exciting developments of the GCSE and the National Curriculum provide a stimulating environment in which to work. People need to be aware of the professionalism

required and the job satisfaction to be gained from teaching. There is no doubt that it offers a challenging and rewarding career."

The minister said no target had been set for the number of people it was hoped the campaign would attract but its success would be carefully monitored. He believed the campaign would be welcomed by teachers.

Mr Nigel de Gruchy, general secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters/Union of Women Teachers, accused Mr MacGregor of promoting an "ivory towers" image of classroom life. He said: "It is ridiculous to suggest that teaching brings out the best in people. Any new teacher has to be a complete bastard for the first six months. The golden rule is not to smile at all for the first year in order to gain control. Only then can you afford to be friendly to the kids."

Mr Doug McAvooy, general secretary of the National Union of Teachers, welcomed the campaign but added: "The Government can no longer claim that there is no problem of teacher recruitment in schools. I welcome the fact that they are trying to interest youngsters in teaching but it will take more than advertising to do that. Once the young people look at pay levels they will see that by the standards of ICI, Esso and IBM, teaching is very much an also-ran."

Mr Tony Cleaver, chief executive of IBM (UK) Ltd, said: "I am anxious to see this campaign succeed. It is absolutely essential that our young people get the highest quality education if Britain is to play its full part in the intensely competitive decade of the 1990s."

The launch of the campaign in London, which had been attacked earlier by the Labour Party as "glitz and tinsel", coincided with the publication of a report by Her Majesty's Inspectors of Schools on previous recruitment initiatives.

The inspectors said recruitment levels to teacher-training courses in technology, mathematics and physics had been disappointing in spite of two years of government initiatives designed to boost interest. Recruitment to courses in technology had been stronger than in the other subjects but physics did least well.

It added that the financial difficulties facing students embarking on post-graduate Certificate of Education courses and the inconvenient location of courses contributed to the low levels of recruitment.

Tories attacked by Lord Joseph over child benefit

By Nicholas Wood, Political Correspondent

A POWERFUL assault on the Government's record on the family and a call for the reintroduction of child tax allowances is to be published today by one of the Prime Minister's closest allies.

Lord Joseph, the former Cabinet minister and Mrs Margaret Thatcher's mentor during her early years as party leader, accuses the Conservatives of "effective discrimination" against the family through tax changes and freezing child benefit.

He is also critical of the decision to give tax concessions for childcare to working mothers while "ignoring" those who stay at home when their children are young. This is not a "balanced" treatment of the family.

He urges the Government to give one-earner couples a tax allowance equal to that enjoyed by families with two incomes, an idea dropped by the Government in its introduction of separate taxation of husband and wife.

Lord Joseph said that the family is at risk of disintegration under such pressures as casual sex, rising levels of divorce and separation, a "huge" abortion rate, and child and drug abuse. The Government has added a financial "squeeze" to the culturally and spiritually hostile framework in which children are being reared.

"No government can guarantee that parents will bring up their children well. But we can at least end the present

fiscal discouragement of doing so. If we did, fewer young might commit crime, more young might learn well in both their homes and their schools, and cycles of disadvantage might wane," he concludes.

Lord Joseph's intervention in a paper published by the Centre for Policy Studies, the think-tank he co-founded with Mrs Thatcher in the mid-1970s, is part of a campaign by the centre for the restoration of child tax allowances, scrapped by the last Labour government, to run alongside existing child benefit.

The proposal is endorsed by Lord Joseph, but his paper, which has been given to the Prime Minister, is also part of a wider move by Tory policymakers to propel the state of the family to the top of the political agenda and ensure it is a prime theme in the next Tory manifesto.

Unlike other Western European countries, Britain has failed to maintain tax and benefit systems designed to ensure that the living standards of families are roughly equivalent to those of their childless counterparts. In 1988, spending on each person in families with dependent children fell from £73.74 a week when the mother was working to £54.31 a week when she stayed at home.

Rewards of Parenthood. Towards more equitable tax treatment. By Lord Joseph. (Centre for Policy Studies, 8 Wilford Street, London SW1E 6PL. £2.25 incl p&p, 16pp).

Threat to airlines flouting security

AIRLINES could be grounded if they fail to comply with Department of Transport security directives under new powers expected to be introduced soon.

Mr Cecil Parkinson, Secretary of State for Transport, said airlines had been asked to put forward proposals for security checks on all hold baggage. "I read that some of them were thinking of not co-operating. When the Act is in place, I will have the power to give directions. If airlines don't observe them, I'll have the power to ground them. Whether people agree or not, it will have to be done."

Mr Parkinson was speaking at the opening of the £110 million Terminal Three redevelopment at Heathrow airport, the day after a presidential commission condemned security lapses by Pan Am and the American Federal Aviation Administration before and after the Lockerbie bombing that killed 270 people in December 1988.

The commission report recommended that the United States launch pre-emptive strikes against terrorist groups but Mr Parkinson opposed such a strategy, while declining to comment on the report until he had studied it. He said security arrangements at Heathrow were being tightened, with all 55,000 airport staff having their every movement checked. "We have extended the search into baggage on American airlines going to America to 100 per cent. We've increased the inspection of baggage on other flights. We now take random checks of flights and take a proportion of baggage off flights. We have tried to learn the lessons of Lockerbie, but as the various investigations come to their conclusion and report, if more needs to be done, it will be done."

Mr Parkinson promised relatives of the victims that there would be a full public fatal accident inquiry besides the Air Accident Board investigation now under way.

In the United States, meanwhile, Pan Am took out full-page newspaper advertisements to counter the report's criticisms. The advertisements proposed a six-point plan of action under which governments would assume direct responsibility for airline security, agree on uniform international standards and accelerate research into counter-terrorist technology. The airline claimed that "before, during and after the crisis, we put forth every effort humanly possible".

The White House indicated that a "good deal" of the report's 60 recommendations would be implemented, but has refused to comment on the call for pre-emptive strikes against terrorist organizations.

Mr James Bussey, head of the Federal Aviation Administration, accepted that "the system was flawed, mistakes were made" and announced the creation of a working group to analyse the commission's recommendations for an overhaul of his agency.

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For more information about taking a stand at Directions, contact: Kate Dawson, Trotman & Company, 12 Hill Rise, Richmond, Surrey TW9 6UA. Tel (081) 940 5668.

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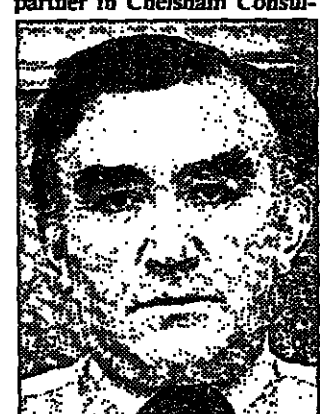
By Richard Ford, Political Correspondent

MR MICHAEL Mates, the Conservative MP for Hampshire East, yesterday strongly denied there was any conflict of interest between his business activities and his chairmanship of the cross-party Commons select committee on defence.

He also dismissed an allegation that the Americans had complained to the Ministry of Defence about the pressure and lobbying activities of a chairman of a select committee.

Denouncing Mr Tam Dalyell, a Labour backbencher, for making the claim under parliamentary privilege, Mr Mates said it was without foundation. He said it was alleged that last September he was in the Pentagon in Wash-

ington lobbying for a public relations company. In the Register of Members' Interests Mr Mates is listed as a partner in Cheltenham Consul-



Mr Mates: Rejected Mr Dalyell's claims

tants, whose clients include Booth Engineering Ltd, Court Trust Ltd, Good Relations Ltd, Link-Miles Ltd, London Oriental Carpets Ltd, National Computing Centre Ltd, Performing Rights Society and SGL Ltd.

Mr Mates said the claim was untrue and that the firm had not started trading until January 1990. He said it was a Labour member of the committee who had suggested they seek memoranda from simulator companies in the UK. At his instigation, the four manufacturers were asked to make submissions.

He said he had advised one of the companies over the past four years, but had no contact with them over the preparation of their memorandum.

Open verdict on French villa drowning

By Robin Young

AN OPEN verdict was recorded yesterday on a woman who drowned in the swimming pool at her French villa after the coroner had heard that the lover, with whom she had quarrelled and in whose favour her will may have been forged, had refused to come from France to give evidence.

Dr Paul Knapman, the Westminster Coroner, said there was little evidence that Mrs Patricia Simons, of Park Village East, Camden Town, north-west London, had been murdered. He could see no need for police investigations to be pursued further.

Mrs Simons, aged 36, was found drowned in the swimming pool at her villa in Antibes on August 22 last year. Mrs Vivienne MacRae, of Welwyn, Hertfordshire,

told the inquest she had been staying at the villa, with M Claude Roche and Mrs Simons' boyfriend, Mr Mark Dorrington-Niblett. She said that there had been a "bad atmosphere" at dinner on the evening before Mrs Simons' death.

"Mark and Claude had called her a 'bird' in French. It was only a joke but she took it rather seriously and they began to row. When we got back to the villa, she and Mark continued rowing in their room. It sounded very violent and went on for some time. I could hear doors and shutters slamming."

Mrs MacRae said she fell asleep, but awoke to hear Mrs Simons calling her name. "When I went out to the pool it was in darkness but I could see her floating below the surface of the water in the

deep end. We tried to revive her but it was no use."

Mrs MacRae added that a few days before her death, Mrs Simons had asked her whether she thought Mr Dorrington-Niblett was after her money. Mrs MacRae said: "She was talking in terms of Mark being a kept man. I think she was very upset about it." Before the incident, Mrs MacRae said, her friend had been unsure about what to do with her will and whether to leave the villa to her lover.

Detective Inspector Peter Turner said he had met difficulties from the French authorities in investigating Mrs Simons' death. The local magistrate had refused him permission to enter the area to pursue his inquiries. Mr Turner said that Mr Dorrington-Niblett had an alibi in that a friend had seen him

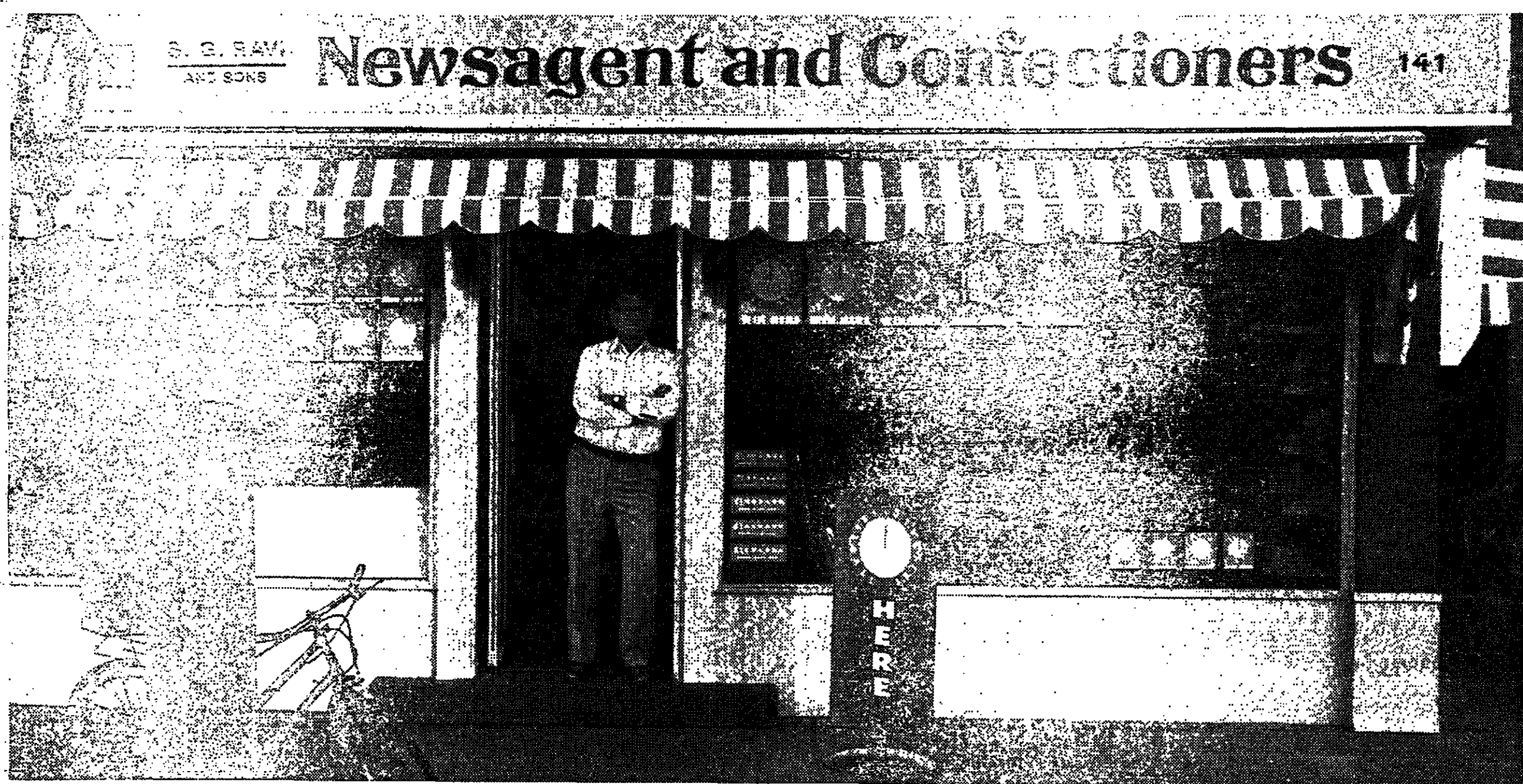
returning to his villa at 2am, which was about the time of Mrs Simons' death.

Under Mrs Simons' will, Mr Turner said, the villa in Antibes had been bequeathed to Mr Dorrington-Niblett, but a handwriting specialist had analysed the will and felt that it could be a forgery.

A post-mortem examination by French doctors revealed that Mrs Simons had two and a half times the legal limit of alcohol in her blood when she died. Dr Richard Shepherd, a pathologist, told the inquest: "It is inadvisable to swim with such an alcohol level. Mrs Simons died from drowning."

Last night a lawyer representing Mrs Simons' estranged husband, Mr Edward Simons, a company director, said her will was likely to be contested.

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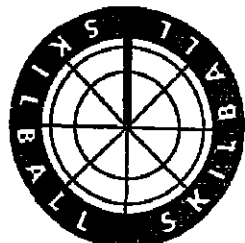
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Peers
head for
clash
on war
crimes

Aids risk
higher for
females

By Thomas H. Ince
Science Correspondent

WOMEN are at a higher risk of contracting the virus that causes AIDS than men, according to a study published in the British Medical Journal. The study, which was carried out by researchers at the University of Edinburgh, found that women who have sex with a man who is infected with the virus are more likely to become infected themselves than men who have sex with an infected woman.

The researchers found that the risk of infection for women is 13 per cent, compared with 5 per cent for men. This is because the virus is more likely to enter the body through the vagina than through the penis.

The study also found that women who have sex with a man who is infected with the virus are more likely to become infected themselves than men who have sex with an infected woman.

The researchers also found that the risk of infection for women is higher if they have sex with a man who is infected with the virus and who is also infected with another sexually transmitted infection, such as gonorrhoea or syphilis.

The study was carried out over a period of 10 years and involved 1,000 men and women who were infected with the virus. The researchers found that the risk of infection for women was 13 per cent, compared with 5 per cent for men.

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Peers head for clash on war crimes

By Philip Webster
Chief Political Correspondent

THE Government is to consider overriding the House of Lords if it throws out the Bill allowing suspected Nazi war criminals to be brought to trial in Britain.

Senior Cabinet ministers are prepared to risk a constitutional clash by reintroducing the Bill and forcing it through under the Parliament Act of 1911 during the next session of Parliament. There is a possibility that the Lords will reject the Bill when it comes up for second reading on June 4. If so, senior ministers are making plain that the Government will then consider invoking the Parliament Act. Under it a Bill can be passed without the agreement of the House of Lords if it is passed twice by the Commons and rejected twice by the Lords in successive sessions of Parliament.

The Act stipulates that a year must elapse between the second reading of the Bill in the Commons in the first of these sessions and the completion of its passage through the Commons in the second.

The Bill was given a second reading in the Commons by 273 votes to 60 on March 19. If the Parliament Act procedure were used, therefore, it could not become law until the spring of next year.

Mr David Waddington, the Home Secretary, and other senior ministers believe that the size of the Commons majority, on a free vote, gives the Government the authority to reintroduce the Bill if necessary.

Ministers have refrained from making public statements about the Government's intentions to avoid antagonizing peers before the June vote. Mr Waddington and his colleagues are, however, anxious that legislation for which considerable preparation has taken place and for which there is democratic support in the Commons, should go through. If the Bill is lost for this session the Cabinet will be urged by some senior ministers to reintroduce it at the start of the next session.

Mr Waddington has announced that a team of nine police officers will investigate the cases against the suspected war criminals. They will follow up evidence to the Hetherington-Chalmers inquiry into war crimes which confirmed there is sufficient evidence for the prospect of fair trials in Britain.

If the Cabinet decides to reintroduce the Bill next session the clear hope of ministers will be that the Lords will back down rather than frustrate the will of the Commons.

No Act has been passed under the Parliament Act for the past 40 years but the last Labour government twice reintroduced Bills in subsequent sessions after they had been rejected by the Lords. On both occasions the Lords backed down and allowed them through.

Aids risk higher for females

By Thomson Prentice
Science Correspondent

WOMEN are twice as much at risk of contracting the Aids virus through sex as men and the number of cases among British women has doubled in the last year, a conference organized in London by the National Aids Trust and attended by the Princess of Wales was told yesterday.

Dr Anne Johnson, of the Middlesex Hospital, London, a leading researcher, said 117 women were known to have developed Aids in Britain and more than 1,300 others have been recorded as carrying the virus.

Studies showed that up to 30 per cent of women having sex with an infected man became infected, while up to only 13 per cent of men became HIV positive after sex with an infected woman.

The reasons why women appear to be more vulnerable were not fully understood, she said. "We are seeing the second wave of the Aids epidemic in Britain. It is following the same pattern as in the United States where it began among homosexuals and moved into heterosexuals, primarily through intravenous drug abuse."

British football supporters travelling to the World Cup in Italy next month should take condoms with them, Dr Judy Bury of Lothian Health Board, Edinburgh, told the conference. "There is a lot of HIV infection in Italy and there will be many young men going to the World Cup who have HIV and do not know it."

Police ask for help to identify poll tax rioters



A man of 5ft 10-11in, with brown hair which was long at the back. He was wearing stained or greasy trousers and was seen at the south-east corner of Trafalgar Square



A man in his early 20s with short dark brown hair, which was long at the back. He wore four ear-rings, beige trousers and a black jacket



A man of about 6ft with brown bushy hair, wearing a long, green waxed jacket, shirt with a prominent skull motif, and black trousers



A woman of about 5ft 5in in her late teens or early 20s. She was seen outside South Africa House

Britain vows to limit size of CO₂ discharge

From Michael McCarthy, Environment Correspondent, Bergen

BRITAIN will have a comprehensive national strategy within six months for controlling emissions of carbon dioxide (CO₂), the gas from coal-fired power-stations and vehicles mainly responsible for global warming, Mr David Trippier, Minister for Environment and Countryside, said yesterday.

The commitment, which will affect almost every citizen, is likely to mean campaigns for saving domestic and industrial energy and improving vehicle efficiency or even restricting traffic growth.

Mr Trippier said the commitment would have "enormous implications" for energy and transport policy. He spoke of "dramatic" policy changes and said it would cause "a lot of pain and anguish. But there is a problem with the climate. We must respond, and respond we will."

Mr Trippier told British journalists at the end of the Bergen conference on sustainable development that the Government would "definitely" fix a target for stabilization of CO₂ emissions

before the end of the World Climate Conference which finishes in Geneva on November 6. Achieving the target would involve a comprehensive national strategy, he said.

Since the Noordwijk international meeting on climate change last November, Britain has been committed to CO₂ stabilization by 2000. The crucial question of the level at which this should be done — the level, for example, of 1990 — has been left open, and until yesterday there was no indication of when it would be decided.

Mr Trippier gave no hint of any level the Government may have in mind, but some European Community countries favour "present levels" or even the level of 1988, to be achieved by the end of the century. Adopting a target for controlling CO₂ implies an end to the unrestricted growth of both the electricity industry and the road transport sector.

Asked about the possible effect on the Government's electricity privatization plans, Mr Trippier referred the matter to Mr John Wakeham,

Secretary of State for Energy, but said: "You cannot suggest that this has not been thought through. All of this has been taken into account by the energy secretary."

Britain would have to move dramatically down the road of energy efficiency, he said, and this would be addressed in the Environment White Paper to be published in the autumn, which is being prepared by Mr Chris Patten, Secretary of State for the Environment, and which might well be the document in which the CO₂ strategy is outlined.

Mr Trippier was asked about a recent statement by Mr Cecil Parkinson, Secretary of State for Transport, that he did not personally think substantial cuts in CO₂ emissions could be achieved "in the short term," by which he meant by the year 2000. Mr Trippier said: "We will have to address the problem of transport in the White Paper."

The costs of a global warming strategy, which a few countries such as The Netherlands have adopted, are likely to be considerable. Mr Trippier said that the question of costs was being studied. He added: "We have never said that it would be cost-free."

He made no reference to fiscal or other measures the Government might consider to restrict, for example, movements of cars or to encourage energy efficiency.

CO₂ emissions from motor vehicles, which represent 18 per cent of the British CO₂ total, have risen steeply in recent years from 21 million tonnes in 1982 to 28 million tonnes in 1988.

Emissions from power stations, which are the largest sector with 33 per cent of the total, have stayed steady or declined in recent years to their present figure of 52 million tonnes. They are set to rise.

The inter-governmental Panel on Climate Change, the body sponsored by the United Nations studying the possible consequences of the greenhouse effect for the world community, is due to publish its first report a week tomorrow.

DETECTIVES investigating the poll tax riot in central London at the end of March have gathered more than 2,500 photographs of suspects taken during disorder which led to 1,800 reported crimes and damage estimated to cost over £2 million (Stewart Tiedler writes). A total of 452 arrests have been made.

Det Chief Supt Roy Ramm disclosed the progress made by the 134 members of the Scotland Yard investigation team as he appealed for help in identifying four men and a woman photographed by police during the riots. The five were seen in Whitehall or Trafalgar Square.

Mr Ramm said photographs issued last weekend had led to the identification of half the people shown and two arrests. The police were now

seeking others seen in those pictures, including a woman. The women in the new photographs were outside South Africa House where there was disorder.

Asked whether investigations had shown any organized group behind the trouble, Mr Ramm said no evidence had emerged to prove organization. However, there was evidence to show that some incidents were arranged, including the sit-down in Whitehall, opposite Downing Street, which became a flashpoint. Analysis of the arrests made by the police shows that 37 detainees had some affiliation with animal rights organizations. Mr Ramm pointed out that they might also have links with other groups.

He said the Yard's investigation was concentrating on identifying those involved in a number of flashpoint incidents. It would be unrealistic to say the police would arrest everyone involved on the day.

So far the charges range from attempted murder for a man accused of thrusting an 8ft steel rod through the front section of a police van, to theft, criminal damage and public order breaches. Minor cases have already been dealt with by courts.

The collection of pictures is at a south London police station and all officers who were on duty on the day are being called to look at them. The police are also in contact with other forces across the country for information on groups such as squatters and travellers.

Defeat in seven-year fight will fight

By Frances Gibb
Legal Affairs Correspondent

AFTER a seven-year fight involving 290 court appearances, Mr Thomas Mathew yesterday lost the latest round of a legal battle that, in its longevity and complexity, rivals that of *Jarndyce v Jarndyce* in *Bleak House*.

Mr Mathew has taken on the legal establishment, banks and estate agents over his late brother's will.

Yesterday, on his 25th appearance "in person" — without the aid of lawyers — he was refused leave by Lord Justice Beldam to appeal against a court order striking out his statement of claim against 21 defendants, including partners in leading law firms, the National Westminster Bank and Barclays Bank.

Mr Mathew and his wife, Princess Olga Romanoff, a great-niece of the last tsar, had sued Mr Jocelyn Timothy Thomas, a solicitor, and 20 others over the will of his brother, Theobald, who died in 1983, after requiring that his estate be split among his four younger brothers.

The four younger brothers, estate turned out to be £5 million. Mr Mathew claims the solicitors disposed of £3.8 million before he gained probate.

Yesterday, in the Court of Appeal, Lord Justice Beldam had said that a court official had said to strike out the claim as disclosing no cause for action.

Women partners still rare in City

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

WOMEN are still scarce among the top echelons of the big City firms and most employers make no concessions to part-time work or job-sharing, according to a survey by the City of London Law Society.

The report shows that 96 per cent of firms replying to its questionnaire have fewer than 10 women partners, although 77 per cent had equal numbers of male and female articulated clerks.

Mrs Karen Richardson, a member of the survey committee, said this "would suggest that the numbers of females are on the increase from the younger end of the market and the proportion of females is accordingly rising as against males."

Despite the growing number of women entering the profession, the City still remains slow to offer working mothers benefits such as flexible hours or part-time working.

At least 61 per cent of firms had no special working arrangements for women and where they did exist, they often did not extend to partners. Nearly 40 per cent of respondents provided part-time working arrangements for assistant solicitors but only 13 per cent did so for partners. Only 3.2 per cent had any job-sharing arrangements.

Mrs Richardson, who recently retired as chairman of the Association of Women Solicitors, said that despite efforts made by some City firms, in general they still had some way to go to meet the needs of women partners.

"There is still this idea that it is all right for assistant solicitors to work part-time, but that partners must be there every minute of the day. It is a complete misconception; the work that the assistant solicitor and partner do is the same kind of work."

She said that arrangements in the City were probably behind those in many provincial firms. "You have to bear in mind that the City is the last bastion of anything that is going; you would not expect it to be in the forefront of pioneering special working arrangements."

The survey also showed that larger firms tended to be more flexible towards women: only 15 per cent of small firms have part-time assistant solicitors compared with 45 per cent of larger firms. Creches were not particularly popular, with only 11 firms favouring the provision of creche facilities, although 24 respondents said they would be prepared to give some financial support.

Amnesty International has offered the Law Society half the places in its London creche. The society welcomed the offer of the eight places.

Riot jail gets new inmates

Strangeways Prison has received its first new inmates since the 25-day riot and siege which destroyed large sections of the building last month (Peter Davenport writes).

Five men, classified as low-risk category and serving short sentences, arrived on Tuesday and more were accepted yesterday. The Home Office said it was intended to build the numbers up to 50. They will be housed in the new hospital block, one of the few areas to escape damage, and might be assigned to clearing up the remaining debris.

Change of heart

Bournemouth council has passed a motion against suing Leeds council for damage by rioting Leeds United football supporters saying that it "does not regard the city of Leeds and the great majority of its people as responsible for the action of football hooligans".

Butlin's all-clear

A baby and a teenage girl who had meningitis while at Butlin's Somerset World in Minehead, had different strains of the virus and were probably infected before visiting the camp, Somerset Health Authority said yesterday.

Murder inquiry

Gypsies attending their annual fair at Appleby, Cumbria, next month will be questioned by police about the unsolved murder of a baby boy whose charred and legless body was found on a tip at Millom, Cumbria, in December.

Rescue dog

Mrs Fiona Levitt, aged 29, of Cilgerran, Dyfed, was pulled to safety by Cassius, a Rottweiler, after she floundered in the freezing Teifi yesterday.

Up and running

Two early-19th-century marble statues, each worth £5,000, have been stolen from the grounds of Broadworth Hall, South Yorkshire. Police believe the thieves used lifting gear and a van to escape with the figures.

Poll tax veto threatens revival at oldest working theatre

By Simon Tait
Arts Correspondent

BRITAIN'S oldest working theatre, barely recovered from last year's financial difficulties which forced it to close its studio theatre, faces more funding uncertainty, this time due to community charge capping.

The Bristol Old Vic, where the British premiere of Arthur Miller's *The Luckiest Man in the World* opens tonight, is unable to plan its programme for this year because both authorities which provide it with vital funding, Bristol City Council and Avon County Council, are charge-capped.

Last year the theatre faced the prospect of closure because of a funding shortfall of £280,000,

avoided when Bristol, Avon and the Arts Council belatedly agreed to increase grants. Prospects of reopening the New Vic studio next season have been dashed, however.

Decisions on the level of funding by both Bristol and Avon have been deferred while the implications of charge capping are assessed.

Mr Paul Unwin, artistic director and director of tonight's production, said: "We are a highly successful and ambitious theatre now but it's very difficult to maintain morale and ambition when you don't know what funding you can expect. I cannot announce the programme, which I would normally have done in early April, because I don't know what we can afford to do." Last year

the theatre contributed £800,000 from the box office to its own costs. In 1989-90, Bristol gave £225,000, an increase of 12.5 per cent, and Avon £65,000, up by 25 per cent, but their allocations for 1990-91 are not to be made known to the theatre at least until after the two councils' appeals against capping are heard next month. The Arts Council drastically cut funding three years ago to encourage the local authorities to bring contributions closer to parity.

After the local authority increases and a glowing report from an assessment of the company, the Arts Council increased its grant for 1990-91 by 18 per cent, from £423,600 to £500,000. This will not be affected,

but the prospect of diminished local authority funding could affect the Arts Council subsidy, normally calculated in line with other grants, for the following year.

"The loss of £290,000 would be a very serious matter for any company," Mr Unwin said. "I'm trying not to contemplate the loss of the whole amount, but apart from the programme itself the delay in knowing puts us way behind in marketing and sounding out sponsors."

"Despite magnificent box offices — up to 98 per cent for our *Orchestra* this season — and very high morale, funding for regional theatre is more perilous than it has ever been. "I could repeat Sir Peter Hall's view and say there was a willing and

determined attempt to damage the culture of this country, but if I was being less cynical I would say it was a serious case of the left hand not knowing what the right hand was doing."

The Bristol Old Vic was founded 224 years ago and revived in the 1940s after an Arts Council grant, making it Britain's first state-aided theatre. It has been the proving ground for Peter O'Toole, Daniel Day-Lewis, Adrian Noble, the new artistic director of the Royal Shakespeare Company, Jeremy Irons and Greta Scacchi, who went to the theatre's school. The theatre adds more than £2 million a year to the local economy, according to a Bristol Polytechnic study.

Warning for the Royal Mail

There are no plans at present to end the letter monopoly operated by the Royal Mail, but in the event of serious disruption the Government would consider suspending it, Mr Eric Forth, Under Secretary of State for Consumer Affairs, said in a Commons written reply.

The letter monopoly was a privilege and not a right, he said. Options were kept under review.

He added: "The Government and the Post Office remain fully committed to the existence of a national letter service available to everyone, including those in rural areas, at a reasonable and uniform tariff."

Legal pledge on consumers

Mr Eric Forth, Under Secretary of State for Industry and Consumer Affairs, undertook during Commons questions to examine any evidence that the six-month time limit on bringing prosecutions against sellers of dangerous goods was causing problems for trading standards officers.

New business increase

The net number of businesses registered for VAT last year was 84,374, Mr Richard Ryder, Economic Secretary to the Treasury, said in a Commons written reply. There had been 261,783 new registrations and 177,409 deregistrations. The net increase was more than 3.5 times higher than in 1980.

8% rise in exports

Exports, excluding oil and extractive items, were 8 per cent higher in the first quarter of this year than in the corresponding period last year, Mr John Redwood, Under Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, said in a Commons written reply.

Census plan for homeless

Next year's census will include a count of people of all ages who are sleeping rough or in temporary accommodation, Mr Michael Spicer, Minister for Housing and Planning, said in a Commons written reply.

More in work

Full-time employment in Great Britain rose by 2.5 per cent last year and part-time employment rose by 4 per cent, Mr Patrick Nicholson, Under Secretary of State, Employment, said in a Commons written reply.

Parliament today

Commons (2.30): Questions: Agriculture, Fisheries and Food; Prime Minister; Employment Bill, remaining stages. Lords (3): Aviation and Maritime Security Bill, report stage. Law reform (Miscellaneous Provisions) Bill, report stage, second day.

Polluter will pay for Devon coastal oil spillage

THE polluter will have to pay for the whole cost of the damage done by the oil pollution which came ashore in south Devon early yesterday from the tanker Rosebay. Community charge-payers of the area will not have to meet any of the cost.

That assurance was given in the Commons by Mr Patrick McLoughlin, Under Secretary of State for Transport. He said that the watchkeeper on the Dignose Marie, the Brixham trawler involved in Saturday's collision, had not seen the tanker and took no evasive action. Visibility had been three to four miles.

Mr McLoughlin said the damage to the port side of the Rosebay had led to the spillage of 1,100 tons of crude oil. The master had immediately

minimized damage by transferring oil from the damaged tank to other tanks. The leak had ceased within 90 minutes.

The Marine Accident Investigation Branch was investigating the collision. "Their initial findings are that it was the duty of the fishing vessel under international collision regulations to give way, but her watchkeeper did not see the tanker and made no alteration of course. The tanker took evasive action, but it did not prevent the collision. Visibility at the time was approximately three to four miles."

The dispersant spraying operations which had continued on Sunday had dispersed three-quarters of the spill oil, but the remaining quarter had

TANKER COLLISION

emulsified with seawater to form an estimated 700 tonnes of what the industry called "mousse" which did not respond to dispersant.

With natural breakdown, that had been reduced to 400 tonnes, but without the spraying the original spill would have emulsified into 3,500 tonnes of mousse which would have had to be recovered at sea in a difficult, slow process or have had to be cleared from beaches.

Beach cleaning had begun on the difficult and rocky coastline. Much of the rocky area would be inaccessible, however.

Mr Anthony Steen (South Hants,

C) said that, although the pollution had been confined to about twelve miles of heritage coast, oil was 18 inches thick in some places. Some of the inaccessible polluted coasts might be reached by helicopter.

Would the Government find ways to avoid the cost falling on the community charge-payers?

"Will the minister investigate not only the cause, but whether tankers should be lying along the south Devon coast line. Should not some of the larger ones have double skins to protect them from this sort of collision?"

Mr McLoughlin: I can give a total assurance that the cost of the clean-up will be met totally by the polluter. There is insurance cover on the tanker and there will be no cost to Mr

Steen's community charge-payers. That is in line with government policy that the polluter pays for the damage he does.

He said that within two weeks they would recover and restore as well as they could some of the worst affected areas. Helicopters would be considered if appropriate.

Mr Simon Hughes, for the Liberal Democrats, asked for an assurance that there would be a prosecution if there had been an offence. He said that the reality was that action had not been sufficient and had not stopped environmental damage.

Mr McLoughlin said that the comment was typical of Mr Hughes. To have acted within two hours had been very effective.

Mr Robert Adley (Christchurch, C)

said that many detergent companies were owned by oil companies who made a profit from cleaning up pollution which they created. The polluter should look up a solution instead of some time ago by one of Mr Adley's constituents, who had been driven out of business because oil companies wanted to go on selling detergents.

Mr McLoughlin said that he did not accept the theory that oil companies caused pollution to get benefit from cleaning it up.

Mr Ian Bruce (South Dorset, C) asked whether the insurance would cover the cost if it was shown that the tanker was at no fault.

Mr McLoughlin said that he would not apportion blame while the investigation was in progress.

'Spineless' ministers attacked on steel mill

RAVENSCRAIG

MINISTERS would seek to persuade British Steel to reconsider its proposal, announced yesterday, to close the hot strip mill at the Ravenscraig steel-works during the first half of next year, Mr Malcolm Rifkind, Secretary of State for Scotland, told the Commons yesterday.

Any approach, however, would have to be based on commercial grounds and not merely on emotional or political grounds.

Mr Donald Dewar, shadow Secretary of State for Scotland, asserted that there was great bitterness on the way that the workforce had been betrayed by the company, and dismay because of the inactivity and "spineless" approach of ministers.

Mr Rifkind, in a statement to MPs, deplored the decision and its implications for the workforce.

He said that British Steel had not yet provided any details about why it believed the closure was necessary and he hoped that it would do so because those affected were entitled to the fullest information.

"As we would with any other major employer in Scotland, we shall seek to persuade British Steel to reconsider its proposal in the interests both of the company and of its workforce."

Mr Dewar wanted Mr Rifkind to condemn "this brutal announcement" in uncompromising terms. How did he propose to recover the situation? Did he agree that there was a case for retaining the strip mill because of the growth in the European market and North Sea activity?

It was foolhardy, he said, to assume that the demand for strip products could be met by retaining the capacity at only two plants. The decision was based on a defeatist view of British Steel's prospects. "It is essential that British Steel should think again."

Why had Mr Rifkind not met Sir Robert Scholey, chairman of British Steel, for seven long and weary months? "These were the missing weeks and the dead days when damaging decisions

were being taken, and he was nowhere to be seen." Yet meetings had been promised. "Was the fate of the strip mill not worth the effort?"

At the Scottish Conservative conference a year ago, Mr Rifkind had boasted that Ravenscraig "had a new lease of life". What would he say now to taste the misery of the dole queue and the thousands of others frightened about their future? "What consolation can they take from the Prime Minister's statement that she has a soft spot for the loyal workforce at Ravenscraig?"

Mr Rifkind said that he was interested in Mr Dewar's belief that there were strong commercial reasons for retaining the hot strip mill, including the strength of the present market for its products, the competitiveness of the workforce and the superb way that the workers had responded to requests made to them.

If there was to be a prospect of British Steel's reconsidering its decision, the case had to be put on commercial grounds and not merely on emotional or political grounds.

There had been various times in the House in the past few weeks when questions of contact with British Steel had been raised. That had been in regard to the question of new investment, particularly concerning the Dalzell plate mill. As he had indicated then, the Government had been preparing, and had already presented to British Steel, its own paper on the desirability of considering Dalzell for any future plate investment.

"Far from delaying, these matters have been a actively promoted in the last few months."

The future of Ravenscraig was of crucial importance to the economy of Lanarkshire because of the employment implications if there were to be a closure. There were significant implications for the wider Scottish economy.

However, 98 per cent of Ravenscraig's products went not to steel users in Scotland but were exported to customers elsewhere in the United Kingdom or overseas, and the Scottish economy was stronger and more broadly based than it had been 20 or 30 years ago. Its economy was sufficiently robust



to deal with any problems of the kind Mr Dewar had mentioned.

He emphasized, however, that any employer with thousands of workers in one particular part of Scotland had a particular role and responsibility.

Mr Malcolm Bruce, Liberal Democrat spokesman on Scotland, said that the Secretary of State should have foreseen the closure coming when the privatization of British Steel was first mooted.

Mr Rifkind said that at the time of privatization, British Steel had given a guarantee for the hot strip mill which had expired last year, so the mill had been in operation more than two years after the assurances it gave at the time of privatization.

At the time of the flotation, the British Steel prospectus indicated that it would be prepared to consider alternative private sector purchase if it had no continuing need for the asset.

Sir Hector Monro (Dumfriesshire, C) said that he was furious at the decision which went to the heart beat of the Scottish economy.

Mr Rifkind said that he had contacted the leaders of the shop stewards and would be meeting them in the near future.

Dr John Reid (Motherwell North, Lab) said that the Ravenscraig workforce would fight the decision and the Opposition would fight alongside them. It seemed that the Sec-

retary of State did not have the stomach for a fight.

Was it correct that Mr Rifkind had not met the chairman of British Steel since October last year and was that not a pathetic reflection on his attitude?

Mr Rifkind said that Dr Reid would do better not to make political points, but seek to cooperate with those wanting to see British Steel reconsider its decision.

Mrs Margaret Ewing (Moray, SNP) said that Mr Rifkind's plea for people to unite in a campaign behind him to try to save Ravenscraig rang hollow against the background of his distinct failure to address the issue over the past months.

Mr Richard Holt (Lang-baugh, C) said that he was concerned at what had happened, but Corby which had his steel plant closed now had over-employment, Teesside had closed its losses and was now booming and last week Consett announced a new and exciting venture, including an industrial park. "We should stop looking backwards and start looking forward."

The closure was raised at question time when Mrs Ewing said that Mr Douglas Hoegz, Minister of State for Trade and Industry, had not addressed the extreme anger and bitterness felt in Scotland at the despicable and disgraceful announcement.

It was not just the loss of 770 jobs at issue; the heart was being torn out of the community in central Scotland and the core was being removed from the Scottish economy.

Mr Hoegz said that during 1979 and 1980 British Steel had lost, in today's terms, £3,359 million and output per man-hour had been 160 tonnes. From being bottom of the league, the United Kingdom had now risen to third ranking, with 347 tonnes per man-hour.

Mr Gordon Brown, chief Opposition spokesman on trade and industry, said that Mr Hoegz should be ashamed to have come before the House as the "do-nothing" minister who had simply walked away from his responsibilities to the steel industry.

Mr Redwood agreed and added that, even now, the Labour Party could not agree on the importance of the reforms and was still threatening them in its new policy.

There had been isolated problems with products such as whisky, but that had been resolved. Japan was not a bad trading partner and their investments in Britain were warmly welcomed. It would be wrong to jeopardize that by ill chosen words.

Mr Lewis Mounie, an Opposition spokesman on trade and industry, asked what exactly were the figures for the balance of trade with Japan last year.

Mr Neil Hamilton (Tatton, C) said that the growing strength of the British car industry was entirely due to the tremendous change in industrial relations as a result of the legislation of the past 12 years.

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Pledge on cars built in Britain

CARS manufactured in Britain by Japanese companies should be treated as British and allowed free access to the single European market, Mr Nicholas Ridley, Secretary of State for Trade and Industry, told the Commons. He said he had used "strong words" to emphasize the point to the European Commission.

Last year, 1,299,000 cars had been produced in the United Kingdom, he said. With the present investment in prospect, it was estimated that two million would be produced here by the mid-1990s. That would overtake the position inherited by this Government from about a factor of one to two.

Mr Michael Grylls (Surrey North West, C) said that the increase in production was dependent on the cars having free entry to the continental market. Mr Ridley had taken a robust line on the matter, but would he tell MPs when it would be resolved?

Mr Ridley said that, at present, British-manufactured cars, manufactured by whatever company, were allowed free circulation in the European Community. "We intend to maintain that position."

Mr Douglas Henderson, an Opposition spokesman on trade and industry, said that proposals by the European Commission indicated that cars produced in Sunderland, Derby and Swindon would be counted as part of the Japanese quota during a transitional period.

How did he intend to ensure that cars made in those places would be classified as British? Mr Ridley said that he had used strong words on the subject to the European Commission, the Spanish, the French and the Italians.

He had told them there would be no question but that these cars would have free circulation in Europe.

"I believe that this matter will be resolved and soon and entirely in our favour."

Mr Robert Dunn (Dartford, C) said that earlier exchanges: "We do not get free and fair trade with the Empire of Japan. We will tell them that unless they mend their ways, in terms of economic warfare we will declare war."

Mr John Redwood, Under Secretary of State for Corporate Affairs, said that the average tariff on industrial products imported into Japan was substantially lower than on those imported into the European Community.

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Labour wants more tax help for nurseries

FINANCE BILL

IN AN attempt to get more mothers to return to work, the Opposition proposed a series of amendments to the Finance Bill to increase tax allowances in relation to the provision of nursery places.

When the committee stage of the Bill was resumed in the Commons yesterday, Mr Paul Boateng, an Opposition spokesman on Treasury and economic affairs, moved an amendment which, he said, was needed as a result of the "defective and stunted" provisions on care for children.

The Bill provides for tax concessions for employers providing nursery places. The amendments would allow mothers to set costs of child care in other nurseries against tax. The Government was subject to an impulse for public relations purposes to appear to be doing good to hard-pressed parents, and women in particular, who found themselves at a tax disadvantage when their employers provided child care benefits.

Yet it was also subject to the compulsion, which characterized every aspect of the Budget, to do as little as possible at minimal cost.

The orchestrated fanfare which had greeted the Chancellor's comments when he introduced his measure on nurseries during his Budget would have led one to believe that it would lead to a growing number of workplace nurseries and other forms of child care provision. But that had not happened. The 3,000 children who benefited from workplace nurseries were not likely to be joined by many others.

This was not simply a child care or education issue. It was also an economic issue about maximizing the pool of skills necessary if the economy was to go forward. The Government had failed to do this.

The Opposition wanted flexibility to enable companies wishing to make such provision to buy places in existing community nurseries; to look at what the local authority and the voluntary sector had on offer and to buy into that, thus expanding the present provision.

Fiscal measures were not the best, and certainly not the only, way of providing the best levels and standards of child care. There must be a comprehensive

child care policy to maximize choice and flexibility for working women and to maintain those standards. Labour was committed to such a policy, and the Opposition's amendments must be seen in that context.

Experience showed that, unless measures were taken to encourage employers to provide facilities for employees to take up the hoped-for expansion in child care provision would not take place. Such expansion would be for the benefit of children and the economy.

Mrs Teresa Gorman (Billerica, C) said that she had some reservations about the amendments because it was an almost straight crib from a 10-minute-rule Bill she had introduced. That had been welcomed by the unions, including the NUT.

Her only quibble with the Bill was that it limited the opportunities for employers to provide a workplace nursery to the workplace itself. The Bill ought to be extended to allow small businesses to combine to provide nursery places. That would stimulate the growth of new nurseries and stimulate the labour force available to small businesses.

That would cost the Government about £25 million a year, but that would come back to the Treasury from increased economic activity through more women going to work and from the tax generated.

There was nothing new about a married woman with children going out to work to help to supplement the family income, but modern society had widened the type of work available and the changing status of women over the past 50 years had meant that many chose to carry on some form of paid work outside the home.

It was a pity that so many women with young children had to be out of the career market for 10 years or so, because it was then hard to pick up again, especially in scientific work, because things changed and developed at such a speed.

"I have a feeling that to make those are not my words, they are the words of our Prime Minister whose sentiments and mine are the same. We would like Treasury ministers to expand this provision."

Amusement arcade Bill introduced

CHILDREN

A BILL allowing local authorities to ban children under 16 from amusement arcades was introduced in the Commons by Mr Patrick Thompson (Norwich North, C).

Its aim, he said, was to give local authorities teeth so that they could deal with this serious problem which caused misery to many young people and their families.

Cases of theft, attempted suicide, broken homes, child prostitution and worse crimes were on record as a result of addiction to amusement machines.

Home Office figures showed that as many as 1.3 million children of the five million in the 10 to 16 age group were spending money on machines which gave prizes.

Of those, at least 250,000 could be gambling in arcades

unaccompanied by parents, friends or adults. Despite a code of practice, he said, arrangements designed to discourage under-16s from taking part were being flouted and that, he believed, was why the legislation he proposed was necessary.

The facts had called into question the view taken by the Government that a change in the law was unwarranted. The main issue was the question of access to these arcades by children, many of whom were playing truant from school.

The Amusement Machines (Protection of Children) Bill was given a formal first reading. It stands little chance of making further progress.

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WHEN THE TIME COMES THE TIMES

Benn onslaught on NEC paper

By Philip Webster
Chief Political Correspondent

LABOUR'S new campaigning document is deeply ideological, backward-looking and shallow, Mr Tony Benn said yesterday.

Mr Benn, a member of Labour's national executive, said it was the most ideological document he had ever read because it set out a philosophical anti-socialist stance.

The document gave solemn commitments to three groups: it promised the City of London that nothing Labour did would damage its search for profit; it promised Brussels that Labour would never stand against what the Commission or Council of Ministers decided to do; and it told Washington that it now saw Nato as a permanent political unit whatever happened to the Warsaw Pact.

Mr Benn's attack on the document came on the day after its approval by a special meeting of Labour's national executive and in advance of this weekend's conference of the Labour Party Socialists, a new body set up within the party to fight for left-wing policies.

The MP said that the new group's purpose was to re-establish a socialist strand of thinking in the Labour Party. The national executive committee discussion showed that the new model Labour Party is "Callaghan plus-plus" and was well to the right of the Wilson policy of 1964.

Joining the exchange rate mechanism of the European Monetary System would mean that control of the currency would pass from the Chancellor of the Exchequer. The document was out of touch with reality



in two senses. "It does not describe what we will inherit when we get into government ... and it does not say what will have to be done. We must be able to answer those questions if we are going to win public support."

Mr Benn said he had never known a time when the quality of forward-looking discussion on the left was higher than it was now.

This weekend's conference will discuss proposed new policy and constitutional

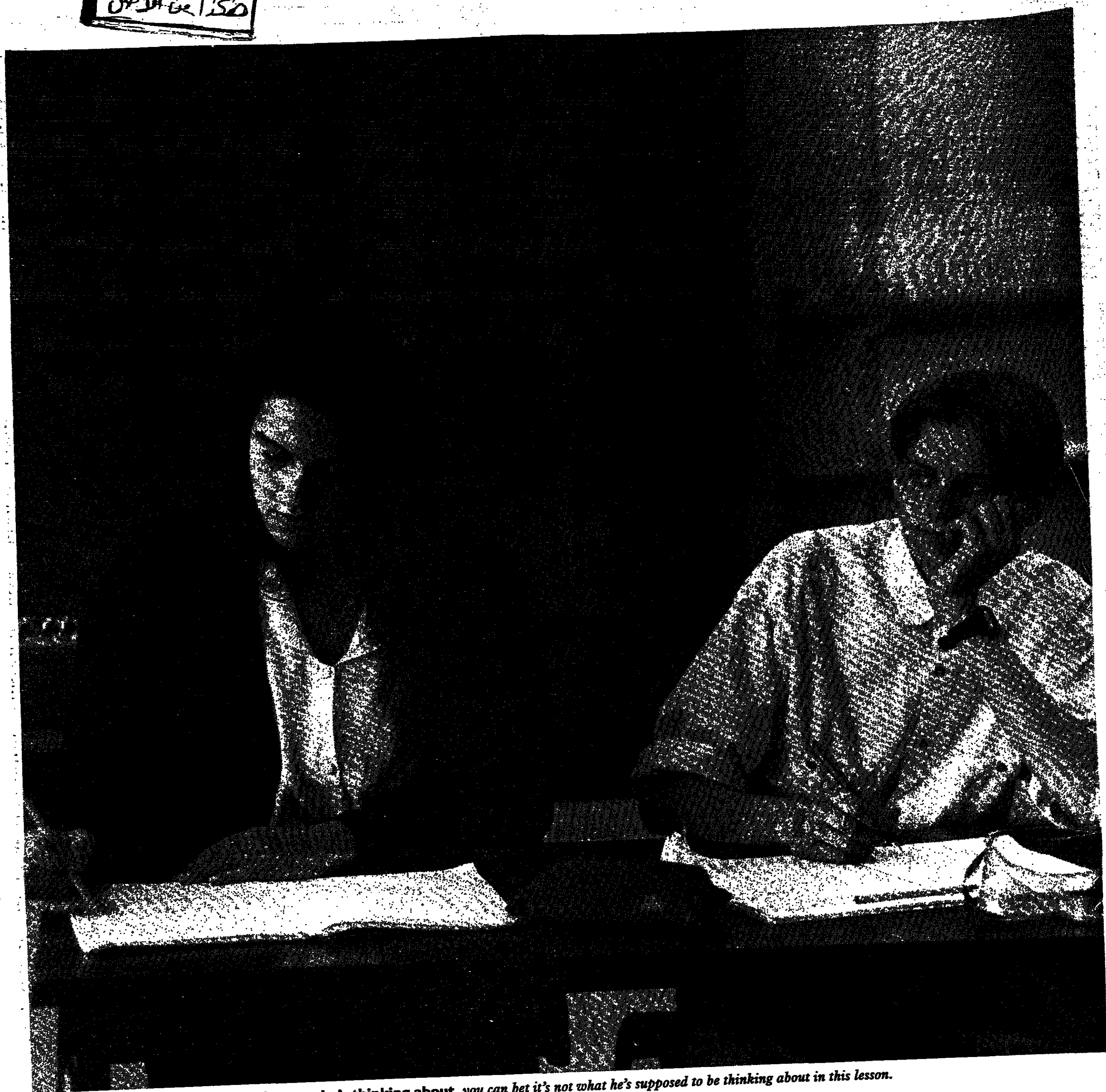
documents representing the thinking of the left.

Sharply criticizing the new NEC stance, the left's policy document says that, for the first time, Labour regarded the financial markets as being an acceptable limit on economic policy. It said that the trade union influence on Labour policy was now simply to agree with proposals that the party leadership brought forward.

"Labour Party Socialists believe

150

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Strasbourg squares up to Brussels in bid for more EC power

from Michael Binyon
Strasbourg

EVERYONE knows that members of the European Parliament want more power: the question now is how do they propose to get it? Can they force European leaders to commit themselves at the inter-governmental conference in December to giving the European Parliament the right of co-decision, the right to appoint the Commission and the right to throw out European legislation?

The first shots in the European Parliament's campaign will be fired in Strasbourg today. Armed with a volley of reports on how the Parliament should ensure democratic accountability in the Community, a delegation of 12 MEPs from the main political groups will confront the Community's foreign ministers in the first pre-conference talks.

In the autumn, half the chamber — 259 MEPs — will meet in Italy with an equal number of deputies from the Community's 12 national parliaments in a series

of "assizes". With honeyed words and promises of closer co-operation with parliaments back home, the MEPs will plead for greater power, and will try to head off any incipient rivalries with national MPs' loath to cede power to Strasbourg.

Inevitably, real power can come only at the expense of the other two arms of Community government: the Commission and the Council of Ministers. Reducing the power of the Commission is the less controversial; European leaders have long grumbled about the need to make Brussels more accountable, and theoretically the Parliament already has the right to throw out the Community budget and sack the entire Commission (though it seems unlikely ever to be invoked).

Now the Parliament wants a real say in the nomination of the Commission, and, most importantly, its President, for that office is emerging as that of prime minister of Europe. This could be

achieved in several ways, ranging from allowing the Parliament to nominate and elect the President directly, to arranging formal consultations with the leaders of the Parliament before member states made their choices (this already happens informally). Between the two, the Parliament could choose from a list submitted by the Twelve.

MEPs could also be required to give blanket approval to the Commission subsequently nominated by the President before it is sworn in. A more rigorous system of confirmation hearings for each commissioner, on the American model, would give the Parliament greater vetting power, but would destroy the principle of cabinet collegiality, which is closer to the traditions of European governments.

Parliament's role in setting the legislative agenda for each year could expand. At present this is done at an informal conference, where Brussels tells the Parliament what it wants to do, and Stras-

bourg works out the parliamentary timetable. This has already led this year to an angry confrontation with the majority Socialist group, which accused the Delors Commission of ignoring the Parliament's emphasis on social legislation.

Taking power from the Council would provoke more opposition from member states, especially France and Britain, that want national governments to retain the final say in enacting laws. The European Parliament wants "co-decision", which could be achieved by extending the so-called "co-operation procedure". The laws that make it difficult for ministers to adopt Single Market legislation without the Parliament's approval could be extended to cover all other fields, such as social legislation, taxation and the environment.

More drastically, Strasbourg could demand a right of final approval, so that legislation reached behind closed doors was approved by open vote in an elected assembly. This would, of course, give

MEPs the right to throw out any decisions by the Twelve's ministers that they did not like.

The most difficult issue is how to share power with national parliaments. Some people, including Mr Michael Heseltine, suggest creating a second chamber at Strasbourg composed of delegations of national MPs. Though superficially attractive, there are many objections to the proposal. First, it would be very costly. Secondly, like the original, the nominated European Parliament would place an enormous strain on MPs who had to commute between Strasbourg and their own parliaments (and with the increased workload in Europe, this might make it unworkable). Thirdly, giving the second chamber any power of veto would undermine the authority of directly elected MEPs.

MEPs are more likely to call for regular joint sittings with national parliaments on particular issues, such as transport or the environment, or to

invite MPs to speak at committee sessions of the European Parliament.

Sir Leon Brittan, the senior British Commissioner in Brussels, has suggested a new committee of national parliaments, a 150-strong body drawn proportionately from the 12 national parliaments that would meet periodically to scrutinize — though not veto — the decisions of the Council of Ministers and offer advice on what issues should be left to member states. Sir Leon said this would remove some of the secrecy of Council decisions, and address the problem of national parliaments feeling excluded from EC decision-making.

The European Parliament knows that it must stake its claim for power before the inter-governmental conference in December. Its first task is persuasion: appealing to public opinion through meetings with foreign ministers, national MPs and Commission officials. Its second task is to ensure a seat at the table when the conference begins.

Kohl seeks bigger role for Europe's Parliament

From Michael Binyon, Strasbourg

HERR Helmut Kohl, the West German Chancellor, yesterday warned his European Community partners that unless they gave the European Parliament greater powers to exercise firm democratic control over the European Community, Germany was unwilling to surrender any more national sovereignty to European institutions.

His remarks, distributed in advance, appeared to be addressed particularly to President Mitterrand of France as well as to Mr Charles Haughey, the Irish Prime Minister, who has come out explicitly against giving the Strasbourg Parliament any more power.

Herr Kohl cut back his prepared remarks on the need for a strengthened Parliament, a strengthening of political co-operation and common EC foreign and security policies in order to make time for a clear reaction to his election defeats in two Länder last week. But German officials said his text still represented the Bonn position.

Herr Kohl added a promise to his prepared remarks that the Bonn Government would not raise taxes to pay for German unity as this would hurt economic development. Instead, West Germany would set up a special fund to pay for the cost of unification.

The Chancellor was addressing MEPs on the eve of their meeting with Community foreign ministers to decide what role Parliament should play in the closer political integration of the Community, and how MEPs' views should be represented at the inter-governmental conference on political union.

Herr Kohl said clear steps were needed to strengthen Parliament's powers before the next European elections in 1994. "According to our conception of Parliament, further rights of national parliaments and governments should only be given up to European institutions if there exists a clear parliamentary control at European level."

Germany has long insisted on greater power for the Parliament, and has linked this with the setting up of a European central bank system, which Bonn wants to be as autonomous as the Bundesbank, answerable only to the European Parliament. This point was made to a group of MEPs on Tuesday by Herr Karl-Otto Pöhl, the president of the Bundesbank, who said national governments had to be prepared to surrender sovereignty over setting interest rates and money supply to the new central bank. This bank should be free of political tinkering by member states and accountable principally to the European Parliament.

Mr Haughey, currently president of the European

Council, was far more guarded. He said only that the importance of democratic accountability in the Community could not be over-emphasized. "We have seen all too clearly in Europe over the past months what happens when people are alienated from their system of government," Mr Haughey remarked. He said the development of the Community's policymaking and legislative structure was accompanied by necessary arrangements for democratic control "including an appropriate role for the European Parliament".

Herr Lothar de Maizière, the East German Prime Minister, attended the debate and held talks with the Chancellor afterwards. He thanked the MEPs for their efforts to secure democracy in Europe, and said a future Germany must be irrevocably locked into European structures so that it could never again represent a threat.

In a subsequent press conference, Mr Haughey said Ireland was not automatically opposed to giving the European Parliament greater power. But, in discussion of such a step, special consideration should be given to the concerns of smaller countries, because their representation was small and their voices might not be heard.

German states back 'unity fund'

From Ian Murray, Bonn

THE first state treaty to create a united Germany will be signed here on schedule tomorrow. Appropriately for a merger inspired by and made possible on the strength of the Deutschmark, the treaty will be signed by the finance ministers of both Germanies, with the two heads of government merely looking on.

Herr Theo Waigel, who will sign for West Germany, is to finalize the arrangements in East Berlin today when he meets his counterpart, Herr Walter Romberg. Herr Helmut Kohl, the West German Chancellor, will be flying back for the ceremony from Washington, where he is spending today keeping the Bush Administration posted on the latest developments on German reunification. Herr Lothar de Maizière, the East German Prime Minister, will also witness the signing of the treaty which effectively ends his country's independence.

The treaty will then be ready for ratification by both parliaments towards the end of next month. From July 1, currency, economic and social union will take effect and the failed, 40-year long, German socialist experiment will be brought to an inglorious end. In signing the document, East

Germany will commit itself to doing away with its planned economic system and will introduce the social market economy which has made West Germany one of the world's richest nations over the same period.

To help East Germany make the painful transition, Herr Kohl yesterday persuaded the prime ministers of the 11 West German federal states to contribute substantially between now and 1994 towards a DM 115 billion (£42 billion) "German Unity Fund". The Government is to

find DM 20 billion of this amount from its savings and will raise a further DM 47.5 billion on capital markets.

The federal states — seven of which are controlled now by the opposition Social Democrats (SPD) — are also to put up DM 47.5 billion. The SPD had earlier loudly complained about the Chancellor's plans to make the state's contribute a third of the cost of reunification, but yesterday they quickly agreed to participate.

According to Herr Johannes Rau, the SPD prime minister of North Rhine-Westphalia, they agreed because the figure allowed them to budget in advance. "This compromise limits the burden on our citizens to an acceptable level," he said.

Herr Waigel said that the fund would offer investors interest of 9 per cent a year, which meant that West German taxpayers would be contributing around DM 17 billion between next year and 1995. He did not envisage any need for tax increases, although he hinted that it might no longer be possible for him to cut company taxes next year as had been promised.

Herr Waigel sought to reassure the business world,

however, that sacrifices now would yield dividends in future. "German unity is an investment in the social market economy of East Germany," he said. "It is also an investment in more growth in West Germany, in the whole of Germany and in Europe."

Even so, the fund will not meet the entire cost of reunification. Herr Waigel expects that East Germany will itself be able to raise substantial sums by privatizing its state assets.

He also believes that within a few years workers' contributions will make a social security system self-financing. But in the meantime he expects to have to raise a second supplementary budget of DM 3 billion to provide a start-up fund for East German pensions and unemployment benefits.

His general optimism came despite gloomy predictions yesterday suggesting that East German unemployment could reach a million within a year of the introduction of currency union. The West German Economics Research Institute said that even if the level only reached half that amount, benefits would still cost up to DM 6.7 billion a year.

At the end of the short morning session, Mr Yeltsin, who is the radicals' nominee for the post of president of the Russian Federation, strode confidently through the lobby, smiling for the cameras. Uncharacteristically, however, he refused to comment on the proceedings.

It was clear from the first that reformist deputies suspected that the outcome had already been determined and that they were just part of an elaborate charade. "We have not come here just to vote," speaker after speaker said. A number of Yeltsin supporters

Fierce Congress debate boosts Yeltsin's hand

From Mary Dejevsky, Moscow

THE newly elected Congress of the Russian Federation, which pits supporters of the central leadership of President Gorbachev against Mr Boris Yeltsin, the popular radical, opened in the Kremlin yesterday morning and became bogged down almost at once in an angry debate about procedures.

Amid the anger, however, two minor victories for the reformists suggested that Mr Yeltsin's bid for the post of president of the Russian Federation was not yet lost. With Mr Gorbachev and other members of the leadership looking down on the long, narrow hall from two of five gilt boxes, the 1,059 deputies heard a brief report from the chairman of the electoral commission on the elections they had won to become members of the Congress. They then launched into fierce combat over membership of the Congress commissions — the so-called technical commission responsible for the computer voting system was contested. (Since such a system was introduced for the all-union Congress last year, some deputies have grown suspicious that it can be manipulated.)

The next bone of contention was the "counting commission", which oversees votes, then the composition of the secretariat, then the method of choosing the chairman of the secretariat — the Congress secretariat is responsible among other things for

providing the chairman with lists of those who want to speak in a particular debate. Then the "mandate commission" came under scrutiny — this checks that the candidates are who they say they are, that they won their elections without transgressing the law, and swears them in.

In the first of the Yeltsin supporters' small victories, Dr Tatyana Koryagina, a radical economist, came within 150 votes of being elected to the mandate commission — though she withdrew her candidacy subsequently, not having reached the microphone before the vote was taken.

The second victory was to have the editor of the conservative daily, *Sovetskaya Rossiya*, voted off the "editorial commission" — the group which edits the official transcript of the proceedings. The final debate concerned the agenda — and a point which could swing the advantage for or against Mr Yeltsin. According to the draft, the Russian Federation Prime Minister's report on the past year's work was scheduled to be given after the election of a praesidium and its chairman (the president). Mr Yeltsin's supporters wanted the report to be given first, in the hope that its record of misfortune would discredit the Prime Minister, Mr Aleksandr Vlasov, who is probably Mr Yeltsin's main opponent.

Discontent erupts in Albania strike

Tirana

UP TO 2,000 workers went on strike for more pay at a big textile factory in Albania last month in one of at least three protests this year in Europe's last hardline communist state, witnesses said yesterday.

They and other Albanian sources confirmed reports of unrest — denied until now by the authorities — and said reforms announced last week were a direct response to discontent fuelled by the democratic revolution in Eastern Europe.

A worker at the textile factory in the town of Berat said the eight-hour strike took place at night about a month ago. It was the first one-party strike in 45 years of one-party rule in the small Balkan nation.

Other witnesses said up to 600 young fans turned a football match in the town of Kavaje into an anti-communist protest on March 25. Young people also staged a silent rally on the last Sunday in January, in Tirana's main Skanderberg Square, where a statue of Enver Hoxha was erected after his death. Both demonstrations were broken up by police, they said.

The protests, unprecedented in Albania, were against resistance to change by the communist old guard led

by Mrs Nexhmije Hoxha, aged 68, the widow of the country's Stalinist former ruler, Enver Hoxha, and chairwoman of the Democratic Front mass movement.

"This group with hands washed in blood continues to sit on the throne. Its iron hand is the troops of the Sigurimi (secret police)," a dissident statement calling for multi-party democracy said.

Albania's Parliament last week approved a package of limited reforms covering human rights and the economy, championed by the country's leader, Mr Ramiz Alia, who succeeded Hoxha when he died in 1985 after 40 years of hard-line rule.

The dissident statement was read to reporters by a young writer and an engineer. "Our leaders realized soon after the East European revolutions that it was their turn," the statement said. Mr Alia's reforms "might be meant well but up till now they have served the consolidation of the conservative forces led by Mrs Hoxha."

All sources spoke on condition of anonymity, saying they feared arrest if names were published. But their willingness to talk to Western journalists at all would have been unthinkable until this year. (Reuters)

Barkers who bite in Romania's loony Laughter Party

From Christopher Walker
Bucharest

ONLY in a Romanian election would you find a party whose members bark at each other like dogs and crack endless jokes about Nicolae Ceausescu and his would-be successors.

Their favourite concerns the late Elena Ceausescu and her favourite son, Nicu, whose trial for genocide opens this month: "She was an imbecile born of a drunkard, and he was a drunk born of an imbecile." In a campaign marred by violence and ill-humour, the meetings of the *Liber-Schimbi* (free exchange) or Laughter Party have shone like rays of sunshine. "The first cause of the death of the December revolution should be laughter," one slogan runs. Contemptuous of the low standard of political debate among a people still recovering from 24 years of repression under Europe's most brutal dictatorship since Stalin, the

party deliberately mocks the electoral process. One recent meeting was addressed by a candidate who identified himself only as a "Marian", and a girl of four who sang a campaign song.

Founded by Professor Stefan Cazimir, a pockmarked professor of literature at Bucharest University, the party has already attracted a small but dedicated band of supporters, mostly intellectuals and artists. It will be fielding 33 candidates in next Sunday's poll, in which 73 parties are competing.

Miss Anda Stoina, a Bucharest organizer, said: "We are anti-communist, but we are also anti-Messianic. We are against those new political leaders like Ion Iliescu, presidential candidate of the National Salvation Front, who set themselves up, just like Ceausescu, needing adulation from a bunch of sheep." With that, she burst into song and then ran through the party meeting in a now defunct Roma-

nian-Soviet friendship hall, woofing like a dog. "In our party, the lowest are the leaders and leaders like Professor Cazimir are regarded as the least important amongst us," she said before bursting into peals of infectious laughter.

Underneath the levity, the party has a serious purpose — to mock the ambitions of the other political groupings, many of which it claims are pursuing the maintenance of communism in the thinnest of disguises. The Bucharest meeting was dominated by a giant portrait of the party's spiritual father, the 19th-century Romanian playwright Caragiale, whose work mocked corruption in Romania long before the arrival of the communists.

Party discipline is lax, but rules of membership are strict and aimed at showing up the Front. Membership of the Laughter Party is denied to those who had a function in the political leadership of Romania between January 1, 1980 and

December 22, 1989, who compromised themselves by endorsing the former regime, or anyone "without a sense of humour".

The party has already raised enough funds to produce a newspaper and to plaster billboards with its eye-catching poster of a smiling child with a flower in his mouth. Its mascot is a dog called Bubico, which explains the barking that sometimes disconcerts new members, although most soon let their hair down and join in the surreal atmosphere of its rallies. At the Bucharest meeting, which attracted about 200 supporters, Professor Cazimir brought down the house with his mimicry of the two-fingered victory salute that has become Mr Iliescu's trademark. "I demand an ovation before I will address you," he told his audience petulantly.

The party's ability to arouse interest derives from the Ceausescu years, when many underground humour was about the only available

form of political activity. Many members now fear that the National Salvation Front is using the old Communist Party structure to maintain its grip on power and prevent free discussion.

The sharp bite of the party's satire and its mastery of the sense of the ridiculous have disconcerted its more serious rivals. But it stands only an outside chance of returning a candidate to bring a smile to the new Parliament.

Meanwhile, the defiant anti-communist demonstrators who have blocked the centre of Bucharest for more than three weeks announced yesterday that they would continue their protest despite new laws banning all political meetings in the 48 hours before polling on Sunday.

The demonstrators, including more than 100 now on hunger strike in a bizarre assortment of 70 tents, are demanding a ban on all former Communist Party activists from standing in elections for 10 years.

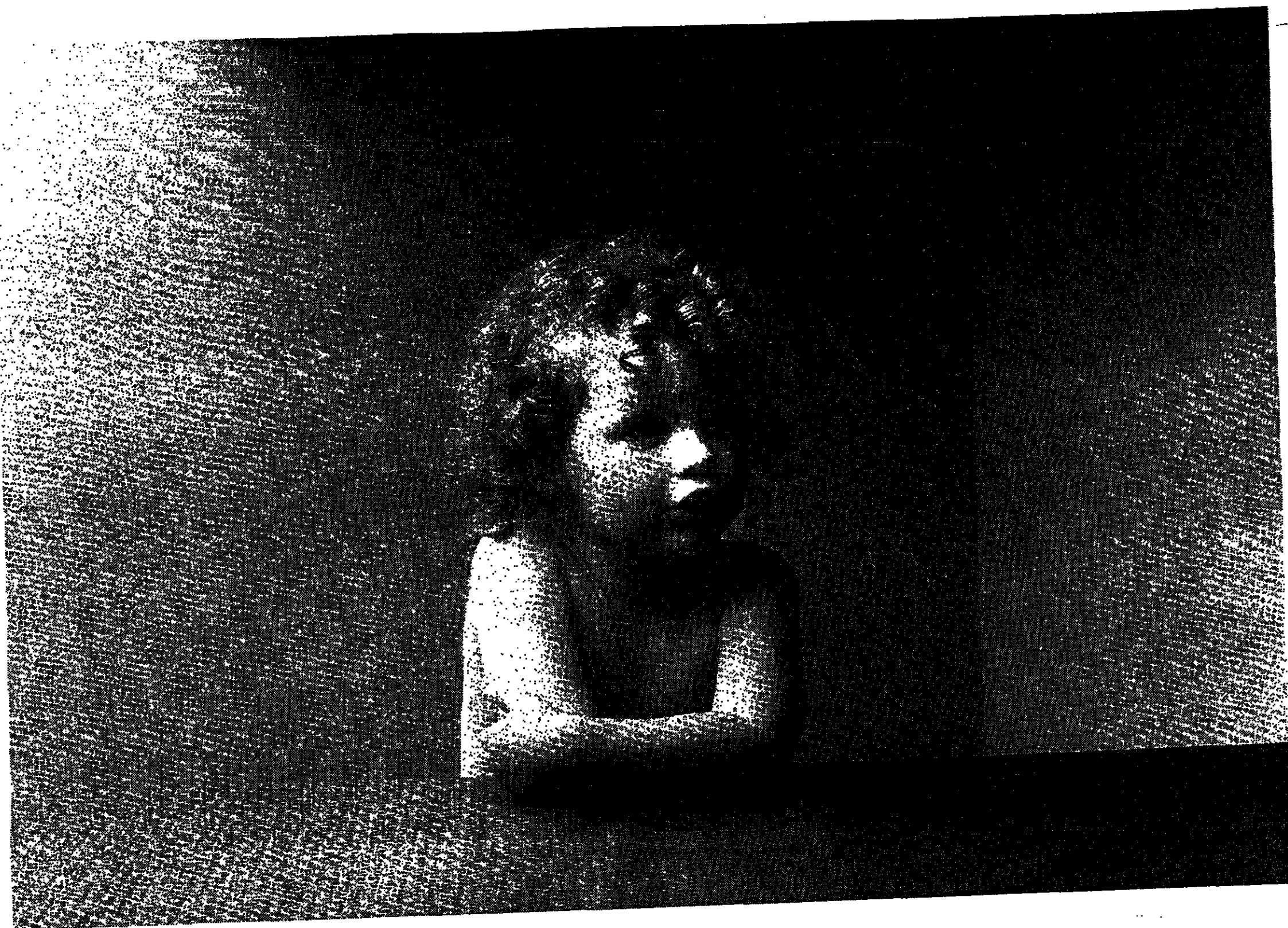


A thoughtful President Gorbachev, above, at yesterday's debate in the Kremlin, while Mr Boris Yeltsin, below, listens intently to the deputies' arguments



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Latvians cling to hopes of renewed talks with Moscow

From Anatol Lieven, Riga

THE Latvian Deputy Prime Minister has said that talks with Moscow will continue, in spite of President Gorbachev's decree that the Latvian declaration of independence is illegal, and the increasingly radical tone of local opponents of Baltic independence.

The Soviet loyalist movement Interfront, whose followers staged disturbances on Tuesday, has called a general strike in Estonia for next Monday, which may be supported by Russian workers in the other two republics.

The belief that talks will continue was expressed by Dr Ilmars Biers after returning from informal discussions with Soviet officials in Moscow, where he is a member of the Congress of People's Deputies.

He told the press that the talks with Soviet representatives scheduled for last Tuesday have only been postponed "because of inadequate preparation on the Soviet side", and may resume in a week.

Dr Biers said that Soviet officials close to Mr Gorbachev had not seemed especially worried by the

Latvian declaration of legal independence, which they had been expecting. "I do not think Mr Gorbachev's response is very harsh," Dr Biers said. "There are no talks with Lithuania, but it seems that Moscow is not refusing to talk with us."

Dr Biers said that some Soviet officials were taking a positive attitude towards the establishment last weekend of a "Baltic council", because "it may get them out of the dead end they have got into with Lithuania, drawing that country back into the talks process".

Dr Biers raised once more what is likely to be the central question of a confederation with the Soviet Union, which he said remained on the agenda. In the discussions with Moscow, he said, "we were supposed to talk further about regaining independence for Latvia on the basis of a treaty with the Soviet Union".

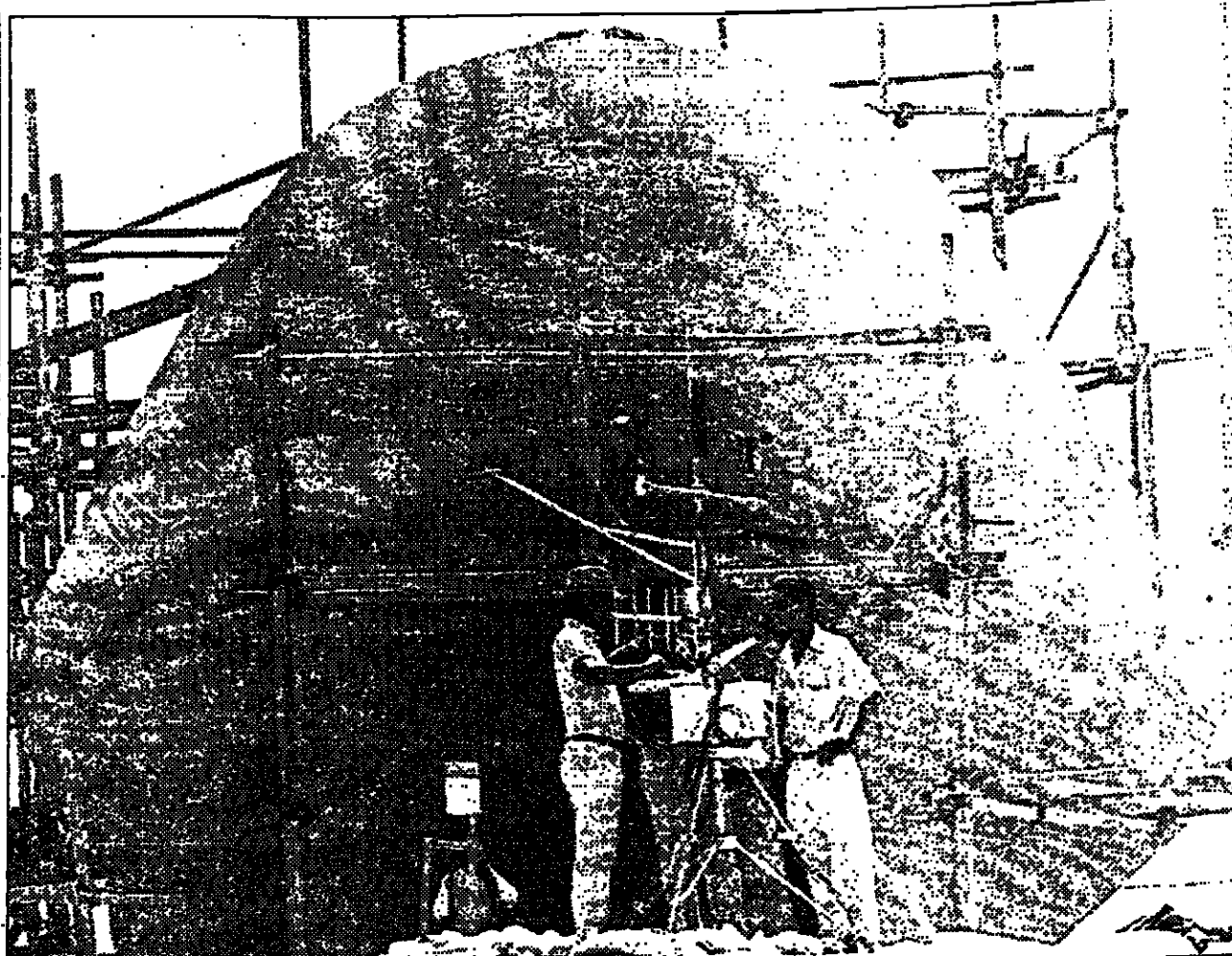
He said that even President Landsbergis of Lithuania told him three weeks ago that he was willing to consider the possibility of a "treaty of association" with the Soviet Union. But Dr Ivars

Godmanis, the Prime Minister, has said that Latvia must have established real independence before it can negotiate a confederation.

Dr Biers is evasive on the subject, but implies that independence can come through a treaty with the Soviet Union, implying that independence and confederation must be agreed simultaneously, perhaps with a brief symbolic period of "total sovereignty" before ratification of a confederation.

Dr Biers said that he also spoke in Moscow with Mr Vadim Bokatin, the Soviet Interior Minister, over the question of the appointment of a new Latvian Interior Minister, whom the Russian-dominated Riga police have refused to accept.

Some Popular Front deputies see the charge by riot police against mainly army demonstrators on Tuesday as further evidence by Mr Bruno Steinbricks, the present Interior Minister and Soviet loyalist, that he controls the police but is willing to use them to defend the present government, at least up to a point.



A new riddle: A computerized weather station, perched on top of the Sphinx, begins sending data today which scientists hope will help them arrest the monument's alarming decay. Scientists from the Getty Conservation Institute based in Marina Del Rey, California, said instruments for the \$200,000 (£119,000) solar-powered meteorological station had been adapted from a conservation project in China. It weighs 200lbs, stands 6ft 6ins tall and resembles

a praying mantis on its haunches. It is held in place on the Sphinx's back by sandbags, and will remain for at least a year, transmitting data — on rainfall, wind direction and speed, relative humidity, pollutants, temperature and the effects of water and salt on the limestone layers of the statue — to a computer a mile away. Mr Frank Preusser, acting co-director of the Getty conservation team, said the information received should enable Egyptian scientists to

develop a strategy to save the Sphinx. "The Sphinx is perhaps the most famed, and by far the most thoroughly documented and scrutinized, monument of the ancient world," Mr Preusser said. But "there has never been a co-ordinated effort methodically to quantify and examine ... (detrimental) factors" affecting it. "We can't stop deterioration of any monument in the world, but there is always a solution to slowing down the decay." (AP)

US budget deficit forecast rises again

From Martin Fletcher, Washington

FOR the third time in as many months the White House has increased its 1991 budget deficit forecast, and given a warning that firm remedial action must be taken if the relentless upward spiral is not to result in fiscal chaos.

The latest administration figures project a deficit of between \$128 billion (£77 billion) and \$140 billion for the fiscal year beginning this October, up from the \$100.5 billion the White House originally forecast in late January.

The new figures do not include next year's bill for bailing out insolvent savings and loan institutions, the American equivalent of building societies. They would increase the deficit forecast to \$190 billion, and triple the \$64 billion target which the Administration must meet next year under the Gramm-Rudman deficit reduction legislation.

The sombre new forecast was revealed by Mr Richard Darman, the White House Budget Director, at the first "budget summit" between the Administration and congressional leaders at the White House on Tuesday.

The meeting was the first in a series which are likely to last a month or two.

Greens pin down the leaping gene

From Ian Murray, Bonn

A FIELD the size of a football pitch planted out with petunias has made the Greens see red. So angry are they that, all this week, they have got up at six in the morning to block the road to the field outside Cologne, which has had to be protected by security guards, wire grilles and dogs.

The trouble is that, if nature had its way, the 37,000 salmon pink petunias in the middle of it all should be white — and the Greens believe they ought to have been left that way. Descended from a long line of white petunias, they have been genetically engineered by researchers at the Max Planck Institute, who have crossed them with maize genes.

What the researchers want to find, capture and isolate are what they describe as "leaping genes" which, as their name implies, are somewhat volatile. They occur in all varieties, but are not firmly tied in to the genetic information of the plant, which means that they can change position and thus sometimes influence the activities of other genes.

Genetic engineers have ways of making use of them — if they can catch them, which is where the artificially pink petunias come in. This is because a rare petunia containing a "leaping gene" does not blush a uniform salmon colour when it is crossed with the maize gene. Instead it comes out in spots or even stripes of red. This makes it stand out clearly from all its ordinary, common or garden neighbours, allowing the scientists to capture it.

An entire field of petunias is necessary because the "leaping gene" is such a rarity that it is only by planting out an entire field that the researchers can be sure of finding examples. The rest of the plants flower unwanted. The Greens worry about such unnatural goings-on. What will happen, they wonder, if the seed of a maize-crossed petunia turns into a dangerous mutant. "Will these petunias bite?" they have been asking the scientists. The Green lobby is worried that

offshoots of these petunias could be the first innocent seedlings of what could become a whole nursery of unnatural, dangerous growths.

Even though the strictly controlled genetic engineering of embryos has been approved for research in West Germany, the petunia is the first plant to undergo such treatment, and the Greens want it to be the last. The Max Planck Institute has done its best to reassure them. Their scientists say that there will be no environmental consequences. The maize genes are harmless, they point out, and as many seeds as possible will be disposed of afterwards. Should any escape the harvest, they stand no realistic chance of survival since the seeds of the petunias are sensitive to frost and damp and will not be able to withstand the winter.

The Greens are none the less worried. The harmless, pretty pink flower, they argue, will fuel world opinion into a false sense of security about the dangers of messing around with nature.

Freed US hostage has cancer

Washington — Mr Robert Polhill, the American hostage freed last month after 39 months in captivity, has cancer of the throat and is to have his larynx removed today (Martin Fletcher writes). His condition was diagnosed at the Walter Reed Army Medical Centre in Washington, where he has been a patient since his return from Lebanon.

Dr Russ Zajtcuk, his doctor, said Mr Polhill, aged 55, probably had the cancer for more than a year, but there was no evidence of it having spread. "Mr Polhill has shown remarkable strength of character and he has a very positive attitude," he said.

Moscow given Gatt look-in

Geneva — The Soviet Union was granted observer status yesterday by the 36-nation General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, or Gatt (Alan McGregor writes). While this is an essential step towards full membership, that will depend on restructuring the Soviet economy to a market-based price and distribution system compatible with Gatt rules.

More than 30 countries have observer status. Mr Rufus Yerxa, the US representative, said it was an important moment after 45 years of a divided world economy.

Pay row troops seize airport

Abidjan — Ivory Coast appealed to military recruits who shut the country's main airport yesterday to return to barracks and surrender. As many as 400 recruits took over West Africa's busiest airport at dawn in a protest over pay, firing their guns in the air. Other young recruits, demanding their pay be boosted from the current level of about £7 a month, commandeered cars, taxis and about 50 military vehicles. French forces in Ivory Coast were placed on maximum alert. (Reuters)

Scientists declare war on asteroids

By Nick Nuttall, Technology Correspondent

SCIENTISTS yesterday called for nuclear weapons to be re-deployed to defend Earth against asteroids, 46,000mph celestial boulders sometimes wider than Britain and capable of having an impact equivalent to the force of several thousand hydrogen bombs.

The call, by the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics, comes in the wake of thawing East-West relations and what is being claimed as a recent, potentially catastrophic, near miss by an asteroid. Last year 1989 FC, an asteroid bigger than an aircraft carrier, passed within 400,000 miles of Earth before astronomers noticed it. "Such an object could cause a disaster of unprecedented proportions if it had struck," the institute says in a paper.

The institute says nuclear weapons should be put on standby to intercept and shatter the asteroids. It calls for a global network of telescopes for early detection, and studies into power units that could divert asteroids.



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South Africa promises to scrap pillars of apartheid

From Gavin Bell, Johannesburg

THE South African Government has implicitly recognized the failure of the black homelands system, and the inhumanity of classifying people according to race, and has promised to dismantle both pillars of apartheid as soon as possible.

Senior Cabinet ministers addressing Parliament this week made clear that neither had any place in a multiracial society, and would be phased out as part of negotiations on a new constitution.

Mr Stoffel van der Merwe, the Minister for (Black) Education and Development Aid, who also has responsibility for the tribal homelands, said the Government accepted that independence was no longer an option for the six autonomous territories. "In the present circumstances it is, therefore, also no longer the aim of the central Government. The

overriding aim now is the participation of all South Africans in the central political process."

His announcement spells the end of the policy of "grand apartheid" devised in the 1950s by Dr Hendrik Verwoerd, under which 10 homelands were established to serve as black labour dormitories for the white economy, and as dumping grounds for those whose labour was not required. Mr van der Merwe made no reference to four of the territories which accepted nominal independence in the 1970s, but it is regarded in government circles as inevitable that all will be integrated in South Africa as part of plans for sharing power with the black majority.

Mr Van der Merwe said existing rights and legislation in the six self-governing homelands would be reviewed, and it was possible certain functions would be returned to Pretoria as an interim measure.

Mr Gene Louw, the Home Affairs Minister, expressed the strongest official criticism so far of the Population Registration Act (1950), under which all citizens must be registered at birth as belonging to one of four race groups.

Mr Louw said the law was unacceptable, totally inflexible, and undoubtedly discriminatory, and the Government wished to be rid of it as soon as possible.

Applying it during the past four decades had been an "unpleasant and heartless experience", he said. "We cannot enter a new constitutional dispensation while retaining the contents of this Act. Its description of race and groups is unacceptable."

Citing an example of members of one family being classified in three different race groups, he said it was untenable. It was becoming increasingly difficult for him to classify people under the terms of the Act, because "free association of people is becoming a pattern of everyday life."

Mr Louw said it would be impractical to declare a moratorium on the law, because it was part of the constitutional debate. His department would apply it with as much sympathy and compassion as was humanly possible.

President de Klerk recently reaffirmed his intention to abolish statutory discrimination, but said the Population Registration Act could be amended only as part of a new constitution.

● BRUSSELS: The European Community will re-examine its anti-apartheid policy at a meeting in Dublin next month, the Irish Foreign Minister, Mr Gerard Collins, said after meeting President de Klerk yesterday.

"We will discuss the situation, bearing in mind the developments that have taken place," Mr Collins told reporters after his one-hour talk with the South African President. But he refused to speculate whether EC foreign ministers, meeting in Dublin on June 18, would change their policy or drop any sanctions.

President de Klerk, who is on the fourth leg of an 18-day European tour to promote his programme of apartheid reforms, has urged the Community to re-evaluate sanctions against Pretoria. (Reuter)

Pretoria plans to integrate hospitals

Cape Town

RACIAL segregation in South African state hospitals is to be abolished, the Government announced yesterday. Doctors immediately welcomed the move, the latest in a series of proposed reforms announced this month by President de Klerk.

Dr Rina Venter, the Health Minister, told Parliament, here, "The Government has decided that the available capacity of beds in all hospitals must be accessible to all persons and that a model be designed to manage this in an orderly fashion."

Dr Venter announced that state health services would be restructured on the basis of equality and accessibility to ensure proper treatment for the black majority. Some state-funded hospitals are at present reserved for whites, some for blacks, while others are split into sections for blacks and whites. A small minority are integrated.

The practice dates from British colonial times, but was institutionalized by apartheid laws passed after the National Party took power in 1948.

Dr Venter said that before any new hospitals could be built, the Government would launch a nationwide study of health care. "The approach to this evaluation will be that all hospitals are accessible to all persons and that no facility may remain under-used while new ones are being built," she said.

Dr Faizel Randera, publicity secretary of the anti-apartheid National Medical and Dental Association, said the organization was excited by the announcement. "We have been struggling and fighting for years for a non-racial health service. In the sweeping announcement by the minister it appears that this is what South Africa is looking forward to in the future."

He said most of South Africa's whites would feel little immediate effect as almost 90 per cent of them used private hospitals and clinics. (Reuter)



Strike force: An Indian policeman lashing out to drive back a supporter of the Left Front at a demonstration in Delhi yesterday. Scuffles broke out between police and demonstrators who were protesting against increases in the price of essential commodities

Peking punishes bureau after envoy goes awol

From Charles Bremner, Hong Kong

THE decision of Mr Xu Jiatun, the former head of the New China News Agency office in Hong Kong, to leave China on an unauthorized trip to Los Angeles has inflicted a severe loss of face on Peking and deepened the shadow that hangs ever heavier over Hong Kong.

Mr Xu left his home in Nanjing last week with members of his family. The Chinese authorities denied that he had defected and the Americans said he had not applied for asylum. Peking, however, abruptly summoned four of Mr Xu's closest associates from Hong Kong and told Chinese personnel here that they would be subject to a three-year limit on their stay in Hong Kong.

For the Hong Kong branch of the Xinhua agency, news reporting has long amounted to little more than a sideline. "You could tell they were not one of us when they started issuing visas," one old Hong Kong journalist said. In the absence of any Chinese consulate or embassy, the "bureau" has for decades served as Peking's presence in the British colony, acting as the

eyes and ears of mainland China. In recent years, the agency has swollen into a full-blown bureaucracy. Its 1,000 staff, housed in a monumental marble-halled tower, now rank as a Chinese administrative-in-waiting ahead of the handover by Britain in 1997.

As the "shadow governor" for seven years, Mr Xu first shocked Hong Kong with his blunt warnings about the need for conforming to Peking's wishes in the run-up to 1997, but he later did more than any other Chinese official to nurture a rapport with the mainland and provide assurances to the Hong Kong people that they could trust Peking to keep its word and respect their capitalist system.

An affable, popular party administrator with ministerial rank and ties to Mr Deng Xiaoping, China's supreme leader, he came to enjoy Hong Kong and admire its free-for-all ways — too much so, apparently, for the liking of his more orthodox colleagues. A couple of years ago he strayed from the party line to declare, for example, that "capitalism is one of the greatest achievements of mankind". After the

1984 agreement on Hong Kong's future, the cadres from Xinhua working under Mr Xu dropped all pretences of belonging to a news organization and took to the diplomatic circuit with all the trappings, from stylish suits to chauffeur-driven Mercedes and lavish entertainment.

Winning and dining the elite and middle levels of the Hong Kong business and media world was one of the agency's main preoccupations in the two years leading up to the June 4 massacre in Tiananmen Square. After the crackdown, Mr Xu maintained a tolerant line. For several months, his political survival was seen in Hong Kong as evidence that perhaps all was not lost.

Subsequently, however, his masters in Peking decided late in the year to replace him with a harder-line official, Mr Zhou Nan, a former vice-foreign minister who had played a leading role in the British negotiations. Mr Nan has cracked down on the reformists in the Hong Kong mission, many of whom had taken part in demonstrations last year. Morale in Xinhua is now said by insiders to be lower than ever, with high tension between the 500 or so Hong Kong staff members and the mainland contingent. Staff are threatening a strike over low pay.

Chinese sources said yesterday that the former news agency chief, who was affectionately known here as Uncle Xu (the name is pronounced "Shu"), had paid three secret visits to Hong Kong since his retirement. Mr Xu's departure has embarrassed Peking and added to the consternation of the administrators and senior Chinese businessmen in Hong Kong, who are anxious to see the survival of forces of moderation on the mainland.

Xinhua staff put the word out yesterday that Mr Xu was under investigation for alleged corruption — a charge dissidents said could be applied to just about any senior official. Dr Joseph Yu-shek Cheng, dean of the territory's Open University, said Mr Xu was clearly held responsible by Peking for the "organizational failure" of the Hong Kong party structure which he headed.

Legal victory for working women

From Susan Elliott, Washington

IN A landmark sex discrimination case, a Washington judge has ordered Price Waterhouse, one of the world's largest accounting firms, to award one of its coveted partnerships to a woman ruled out for the job seven years ago because colleagues thought she was too "macho".

America's working women often claim to have made bigger strides in the workplace than their European sisters, but complain that men still have too many of the senior corporate jobs at management level. Only 27 of Price Waterhouse's 900 partners are women and Ms Ann Hopkins, aged 46, was the only female nominee among 88 candidates for partnership when the firm considered her in 1982.

Her case is the first in which a court has compelled a company to make a person a partner as a remedy for discrimination on grounds of race or sex. An investigation into her failure to become a partner found that the firm passed her over because colleagues disliked her personal manner and suggested she should attend "charm school".

A lawyer representing Ms Hopkins, who now holds a senior management post at the World Bank here, hailed the court's decision this week as a ray of hope for all minorities striving for equal opportunities in America. A judge also awarded Ms Hopkins about \$400,000 (£240,000) in back pay for earnings lost as a result of illegal "sexual stereotyping". The amount is the average salary earned today by management consultants at the firm who were made partners when Ms Hopkins was turned down.

Ms Hopkins, who is married with a family, has not yet said whether she will go back to Price Waterhouse, although the Washington judge has said that if she does he will order the firm not to retaliate against her for suing it.

The judge's decision is almost certain to fuel intense debate in legal circles, especially in a bureaucratic city like Washington where the American Bar Association estimates that at least one in 20 professionals is a lawyer.

For the past decade, law and accounting firms have agonized over whether they could be legally forced to give partnerships to victims of discrimination.

Ambitious lawyers for influential law firms in Washington routinely work 12-hour days seven days a week as they aim for the top, and many firms think that the judicial system should not intervene in decisions on partnership which are based on elaborate personal considerations.

After only four years at the company when proposed for partnership, Ms Hopkins had brought in more business to Price Waterhouse than any of her rival nominees. The firm told her in early 1983 that it had put her nomination on hold but did not explain why. Ms Hopkins resigned a year later and sued the firm for sex discrimination, thinking it had given her "an irrational explanation for a bad business decision".

Only later, when her case was in litigation, did she discover that the firm had bowed to partners' comments "that I needed to go to charm school, that I was too macho, that I was overcompensating to being a woman". Her case last year reached the Supreme Court, on the issue of the standards which employers and claimants in discrimination suits must prove.

Chile doubt on theory of Briton's suicide

Santiago — Judge Alejandro Solis, investigating the death of Jonathan Moyle, an English journalist and helicopter expert, expressed doubts about a suicide theory (Lake Sagaria writes).

Moyle, attending an international arms exhibition organized by the Chilean Air Force, was found hanging in a closet in a Santiago hotel in March. Judge Solis said he could not find a motive for suicide and, according to a half-finished letter in Moyle's room, he had planned to take part in a Bolivian drugs raid.

Subway survival

New York — Miss Christina Neumann-Spallart, aged 26, an Austrian student who was shoved by an unknown man into the path of an oncoming subway train, escaped by rolling into the trough of the tracks and lying flat while the train passed over her. (AFP)

Unity search

Bejumbura — President Buyoya of Burundi has promised a "democratic constitution" under a one-party government, ending his military rule, and a referendum on a charter aimed at unifying the traditional rival Tutsi and Hutu tribes. (AP)

Bases fears

Manila — The United States is concerned for the security of its personnel in the Philippines after two airmen were murdered, and negotiations aimed at resolving a dispute over payment for continuation of US military bases there failed again. (AFP)

Tourist killed

Nairobi — Luc Poppe, aged 31, a Belgian tourist reported missing in April, has been found dead in a river near Mount Kenya, a Belgian Embassy official revealed here. (Reuter)

Nazi charges

East Berlin — East Germany is asking Syria to extradite Herr Alois Brunner, a suspected Nazi war criminal accused of deporting thousands of Jews to death camps. (Reuter)

Poll arrests

Kuwait — Two pro-democracy activists, campaigning for a boycott of the general election next month, have been arrested on charges of holding an illegal gathering. (Reuter)

Drugs haul

Tokyo — Japanese authorities have seized a record 92.4 lb of cocaine on a Colombian banana boat and arrested one Colombian crew member.

Shamir seeks cash for new settlers

From Richard Owen, Jerusalem

IN A signal of the hard-line stand his forthcoming right-of-centre Government is likely to take on the peace issue, Mr Yitzhak Shamir, the Israeli caretaker Prime Minister, yesterday asked the Knesset (parliament) to approve extra spending of £14 million on Jewish settlements in the occupied territories.

At the same time Mr Teddy Kollek, the liberal Mayor of Jerusalem, who is normally critical of settlement policy, said recent remarks by Christian leaders attacking a Jewish settlement in the Christian quarter of Jerusalem's Old City were "deeply offensive".

The three-week period given to Mr Shamir by President Herzog to prove he can form a government expires today. Despite last-minute differences yesterday with the Orthodox religious party, Shas, over distribution of portfolios and the issue of electoral reform, Mr Shamir is said by officials of his Likud party to have "sewn up" a coalition with the religious parties and small, right-wing factions in the Knesset.

The religious and right-wing groups — and for that matter many members of Likud — are firmly opposed to the Middle East peace proposals put forward during the life of the previous Labour-Likud Government by Mr James Baker, the US Secretary of State. Mr Shamir himself has ruled out the Baker plan for an Israeli-Palestinian dialogue in Cairo on the grounds that it would lead to direct talks with the Palestine Liberation Organization and open the way for negotiations on the status of Jerusalem, Israel's capital.

The new right-wing Government's guidelines reportedly contain a commitment to peace with the Arabs, but couched in vague terms in contrast to Mr Baker's attempt to persuade both sides to define their terms and set a specific agenda.

Israel reacted defiantly yesterday to President Gorbachev's assertion during



Mr Kollek: Finds Church remarks "offensive"

President Mubarak's visit to Moscow this week that the settlement of Soviet Jews in the occupied territories, including East Jerusalem, was "dangerous and criminal".

Mr Shamir has also come under fire from Washington both for authorizing new West Bank settlements and for providing official funds for the attempted takeover by militant Jewish settlers of St John's Hospice, a church-owned hostel next to the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem.

Undaunted, Mr Shamir yesterday asked the Knesset finance committee to release £14 million from the Housing Ministry's contingency fund to expand West Bank settlements, build new ones and improve settlement access roads, many of which bypass hostile Arab villages.

There is no official overall figure for settlement funding, which is scattered under different budget headings. But the funding is believed to be of the order of nearly £200 million a year. Mr Shamir's aides said yesterday's request was "routine" and consistent with the guidelines of the previous Labour-Likud Government.

Strong yen breeds a new gallery of art collectors

From Joe Joseph, Tokyo

EXPECT to see more of the world's most expensive paintings heading to Tokyo, where the strong yen, dizzy land values and, until their recent setback, soaring stock prices, have enabled more and more Japanese to live like Gettys.

But don't expect to see the art works on display in obvious places. One Japanese pinball arcade millionaire houses his Picassos, Chagalls and Renoirs in a museum he built by the side of a volcano in a remote part of southern Japan. Art lovers wanting to gaze at "Les Femmes d'Alger" by the most expensive Picasso sold, when it was knocked down to a Japanese car parts company for £30 million, will have to trek down a museum next to its race track in southern Japan.

Mr Michimasa Maruchi, who became rich by selling a few well-located rice paddies to hungry property developers, runs a furniture shop in a humdrum Tokyo suburb in which he displays from the Barbizon School, including 10 Courbets and as many Corots. Mr Masahiro Takano, who runs the Green Cab taxi company, has built the world's biggest collection of paintings by the French artist Marie



Money talks: Mr Hideo Kobayashi raising the price of a Van Gogh to \$82.5 million

Laurencin: the works are on show at an out-of-the-way hilltop resort.

Yasuda Fire and Marine, berated by Japan's Finance Ministry for its dramatic dive into the art market in 1987, is a bit more accommodating. It has put Van Gogh's "Sunflowers" on public display at its Tokyo headquarters. It is hard to recall that the sale price of £24.75 million drew gasps just three years ago.

These are examples of the

new breed of art collector that has sprung up in Japan, where the state is not a great benefactor of the arts but gives tax breaks to companies that want to add a bit of glamour to their reputation for ball-bearings or marine insurance.

Although many paintings go from an auction room to a well-bolted Japanese vault, more and more businessmen and small companies are starting up art museums outside which they can park their

shiny Mercedes limousines. According to one estimate, 500 new museums have opened across Japan over the past decade. Their spending power would make British museums faint with envy.

The new Japanese owner of Van Gogh's "Portrait of Doctor Gachet", sold in New York on Tuesday night for a record \$82.5 million (£49.7 million), is still unknown. Mr Hideo Kobayashi, the Tokyo gallery owner who bought the picture

on behalf of a blue-chip company quoted on the Tokyo stock exchange, is saying only that his client wanted it at any price. "They are extremely pleased," he said.

Art experts reckon that four out of every 10 top quality paintings sold at the world's main auction houses now find their way to Japan. They say that the recent jitters on the stock exchange, rather than dampening Japanese buyers' enthusiasm for paintings, has in fact made top quality art look an even more attractive home for their spare cash. While Tokyo shares may be off their peak for the moment, land prices are still booming and creating new Japanese Rockefeller every day.

Owners of tiny corner stores, or Tokyo's famous urban farmers, who till a rice paddy barely bigger than a tennis court, become dollar-millionaires as soon as they sell up. Land in Tokyo's posh Ginza district fetches 37.7 million yen (£140,000) a square metre. Art is often a convenient way to hide money from the taxman.

A record 280 billion yen worth of art was imported into Japan last year, according to customs records: this is a five-fold increase over 1988. French Impressionist works were most favoured — they are

easily recognizable, come with a reliable provenance and are seen by the Japanese as less risky than Old Masters.

The old days, when galleries, department stores (still the most likely place for well-heeled Japanese to pick up a Picasso), and a few private investors and collectors dominated the market, are over. Now everyone seems to be joining in the fun. "Coffee shops used to rent paintings worth 20,000 or 30,000 yen," said one art specialist, "but now there are company presidents willing to pay to rent a painting worth several tens of millions or even billions of yen so they can put it in their offices. It's getting so the average art gallery can't compete with the kind of money involved."

But the Japanese are not stopping at just picking up pictures. One of Japan's more colourful gallery owners, Mr Yasumichi Morishita, has bought a stake in Christie's, the house that auctioned the Van Gogh in New York. Mr Morishita, a financier with a criminal record and a racy reputation in Japan, became Christie's second biggest shareholder last autumn when he bought a £33 million stake in the British auction house.

How deep the Labour allure?

David Butler

A few years ago no one would have believed that Labour could produce a policy review that went as far as this week's has done to free the party from the attributes that have made it so unsaleable over the past decade. Few would credit that the leadership would be willing to take such a leap, or that it could do so confident that the party would accept the revolution in stance.

Early this year a National Opinion Poll survey found a clear majority believing that a Labour government would put up prices, weaken the economy, add taxes, increase strikes, and weaken defence. However, the same poll (which put Labour in the lead in voting intention) found a majority thinking that Labour would improve education and health, reduce unemployment and add to freedom. This week's policy review may not be specific on what Labour would do, but everything in it seems designed to reassure the misgivings of voters who want a change but do not quite trust Labour in the economic field.

The party's descent between 1974 and 1983 was catastrophic. It fell from 39 per cent of the vote to 28 per cent. The recovery has been slow: in 1987 Labour's vote rose to 31 per cent and in the opinion polls the party lagged behind until a year ago. But now it is winning by-elections on record swings, achieving a best-ever local government performance, and staying handsomely ahead in the polls. This remarkable achievement owes a bit to the collapse of the centre parties, but far more to the disasters of the Government's economic and tax policies. The old adage: "Governments lose elections; oppositions don't win them," seems to be borne out.

In fact, oppositions, too, lose elections. Labour fared disastrously in 1983 and badly in 1987 because it was seen as soft on defence, anti-European, beholden to the unions, and financially irresponsible. At times in the Eighties it was fashionable to picture the party as in terminal decline. We have watched a miraculous escape. With the aid of the policy review, the party has sloughed off most of the policies that were frightening to middle Britain. It has repudiated unilateralism — and, anyway, in a post-glasnost world, people are less worried about defence. It has embraced the European Community. It has, to a considerable degree, drawn away from the unions' embrace and accepted most of recent employment legislation. And it has come to terms with privatization and with market forces. Is this enough? Will a prosperous property-owning electorate risk its well-being at the hands of these late converts?

The Conservatives are certainly frightened. At last there appears to be an alternative government, a cohesive group with plausible policies. Kenneth Baker and his

colleagues are naturally intent on undermining faith in Neil Kinnock and his front bench and on demonstrating that the old, impractical, spendthrift socialist urges are still there behind their new image, burnished by the public relations men.

The evidence of opinion polls indeed shows that electors, while seeing Labour as more caring and better fitted to deal with the health service and employment, are still doubtful about Labour's capacity to handle the economy. There is no sign that Labour is offering an alternative with a deep-rooted appeal. Its strength comes from disenchantment at the perceived failures of Mrs Thatcher and her policies. Recent polls have shown a Labour majority among two groups which provided the core of the Conservative triumphs of 1983 and 1987 — skilled manual workers and even housewives.

If Labour is now seen as acceptable, it is largely because it has embraced Conservative, if not Thatcherite, policies. And, as socialist governments in Australia and New Zealand have shown, the left can win repeatedly by stealing the clothes of the right.

Elections are fought in terms both of personalities and of issues. The next two years will see mighty efforts to discredit their leaders. Mr Kinnock's rating has risen sharply in the past 18 months and Mrs Thatcher's has plummeted. But such ratings are volatile. The parties' fate will be decided by a more general perception of the relative capacity and realism of the Conservative and Labour teams. Both are at the mercy of uncontrollable economic forces. There is not very much that John Major, the Chancellor, can now do to alter the level of inflation or of employment that will be affecting voters' judgement at the end of next year. We shall have to choose the devil we know or the devil we don't.

Labour has taken remarkable strides towards presenting itself as a possible government, but Conservatives will be skilled at pointing out that the men and the policies are untried. The City may like John Smith and find even his tax policies bearable. But do they believe that Labour's Treasury team, even when shackled within the European Monetary System, will be able to restrain the immense party pressures to spend more on health, more on education and more on social welfare — far more than can be covered by a peace dividend or a 10 per cent hike in income tax for the rich?

When it comes down to it, there is, perhaps, mercifully, no enormous gap between what a Labour government or a Conservative government will be doing in 1991-95. But the next two years will see some dedicated efforts by admen to suggest the chasm is vast.

The author is a fellow of Nuffield College, Oxford.

...and moreover

CLEMENT FREUD

BC wardrobe rang on Tuesday morning, about what I was to wear. In olden days one agreed to television engagements not so much for the money, of which there was never a lot, but for the fringe benefits: they pressed your suit, shone your shoes, cut your hair and if you wore a white shirt they said "Oh dear, did you not know that white blows the cameras?" and provided you with a shirt that was coloured — and a tie to go with it. Later that evening, after the programme and food and drink in the green room and ringing friends in New Zealand ("I have this urgent phone call to make, may I use an office?") there never remained on the premises anyone of sufficient authority to whom to return the shirt and tie, so you took it home.

It was good to be on the receiving end of wardrobe once more. I remembered the drill: "Hello, 31-inch inside leg, chest 44, waist 38, hat 5 1/2, shoes wide fitting, size 10s."

Let me stop you there, said wardrobe. You are playing yourself.

I accept that, I replied, but playing myself in your clothes. No, said wardrobe; wear the sort of clothes you would wear when going to dinner in the country in summer. I wore my suit; the one I usually wear.

The production secretary phoned on Tuesday evening. A black taxi, she announced, would call at my house at 7.45am, pick up Bernard Levin at his and take us both to Ealing Studios: make up at 8.00, rehearsal 9.15, should be finished by early afternoon. "Not a big role?" She said no, not, but Elijah is very much looking forward to working with you, me, too, I said, to working with Elijah.

When I came downstairs on Wednesday morning the black taxi was waiting; the driver picked up Mr Levin, who lives in the same street, and took us to Ealing Studios, where they made *Kind Hearts and Coronets*, and at 8.30 make-up gave me a quick glance and said, "You look all right." Another indication that one is playing a minor role. Levin looked all right also. We were shown the canteen, had two cups of tea at 6p each and were called to the set at 9am.

When the credits roll at the end of a film you learn the identity of gaffer, best-boy, grip, assistant grip, deputy property co-ordinator, period consultant... yesterday morning at Ealing Studios they were all there, and their secretaries and dressers and other understudies and their uncles and aunts; the floor was strewn with cables. We met Elijah.

He said you are playing yourselves, you, Bernard Levin, are playing Bernard Levin and you, you. It is summer, you are going to this restaurant, which you Bernard Levin know and are showing to him, me — and the head waiter meets you and takes you to a table. You can make up what you say as you go along. Leave it to me, I told Elijah, I am a member of Equity.

"Quiet, everyone, rehearsal," said a man. Levin and I stood outside a doorway, heard the man say "Action" and walked in. "The fish here is very fresh," said Levin; I asked him why his chauffeur wore a cape, and Albert Finney, as the head waiter, appeared and greeted Mr Levin and shook my hand. "Sir Clement." He had heard of me.

Will you, said Elijah, turn in this direction when you speak... and a property man marked the floor where we should stand. Another rehearsal, quiet please, action. "Mad cow disease has decimated the clientele here," said Levin; Jonty Meade didn't go for it a lot, said I, and Finney appeared saying Mr Levin and Sir Clement, sorry. Two more rehearsals and we tried a take, then another, a third. We were getting the hang of things: entered on cue, remarks from Levin, riposte from Freud, enter Finney, "Mr Levin, good to see you again." "Do you know Sir Clement?" "Know his name, of course," said Finney; we shook hands, he asked whether we would like a drink in the bar, and called a minion to lead us away.

Elijah thought we had done that scene just about as well as anyone could have done. It was 9.45am. "Now what?" I asked, beginning to rather enjoy things. Elijah said: "That's it, thank you, it has been a real pleasure working with you." I don't suppose there will be much now until the Emmy awards.

John Hemming sets a practical agenda for today's international conference in London

Exploitation will save the rainforest

Renewable resources are the holy grail of the passionate army of rainforest conservationists. If only it could be shown that preserving those lush jungles is worth more than destroying them, the campaign would almost be won. Any argument based on market forces is so obviously the best. Most of the countries with rainforests (which are the products of heat and of humidity generated by the Earth's spin, and therefore lie around the Equator) have crippling foreign debts; but they are suspicious that debt-for-nature swaps will mean loss of national pride or sovereignty.

Fernando Collor de Mello, Brazil's dynamic new president, expressed this attitude shortly after his election. Declaring that the environment would be a prime concern of his presidency, he added: "But not because of international pressure. I am a young man and I want a clean world, and so do most Brazilians. But we intend to achieve it for ourselves."

Appeals on moral or emotional grounds are hard to sustain. When conservationists plead that rain-

forests contain more than half of the planet's genetic diversity, that they are places of great beauty filled with millions of species of fellow creatures, or that they help to control the Earth's climate, the owners of the forests are apt to tell them to clean up the pollution in their own countries and replant the temperate forests.

In fact Brazil, which has 30 per cent of the world's surviving tropical forests, has responded fairly well to the moral arguments. The destruction continues — perhaps 10 per cent of the total rainforest there has already gone — but Brazil has granted protected status to 21 million hectares of Indian lands, an area three times the size of England. President Collor demonstrated his good intentions by appointing as Environment Secretary the country's most outspoken conservationist, José Lutzenberger, and by leading a drive to evict 40,000 gold prospectors from the territory of the Yanomami Indians.

In conversation with me last summer he acknowledged the folly of clearing rainforests to grow pasture and graze cattle on their impoverished soils, and said he was determined to forbid it if elected president. He was also fully convinced of the wisdom of tapping renewable resources, whenever they are found in the forests.

These views will provide a bond of common interest when the Prince of Wales visits Brazil in October. For the Prince returns to this vital aspect of rainforest conservation today in his address to the Rainforest Harvest conference at the Royal Geographical Society. His theme, a positive development of his February rainforest speech, will be that the intelligent harnessing of the world's richest ecosystem is the most constructive way to justify its protection.

The conference, bringing together scientists, native people and businessmen, will also hear examples of successful exploitation of renewable resources. By gathering the nuts, resins and fibres in a few hectares of their forests, peasant families near the mouth of the Amazon make \$10,000 a year, four times as much as if they had destroyed them to raise scrawny

cattle. Wild rubber is being tapped again in the western Brazilian state of Acre, and the local government has established an extractive reserve: an area where people may live and remove forest resources without destroying the trees.

Sustainable use of rainforests is no easy matter. It involves large-scale research. We still need to learn what the forests contain. The Royal Geographical Society's recent big Maracá Rainforest Project discovered more than 250 species new to science in one small part of northern Amazonia, and one of its botanists found a tree called *Alexa* that is full of an alkaloid that may in future be used to prevent AIDS.

Ethnobotanists need to extract more knowledge from forest peoples, then ensure that they are properly rewarded if their skills are commercially exploited. There is a vast amount still to be learned about regeneration: tropical ecosystems are so complex that it is extremely difficult to replant forests that have been logged for their hardwoods. Pharmaceutical companies need to discover the benefits locked in millions of species of forest organisms. Tropical plants

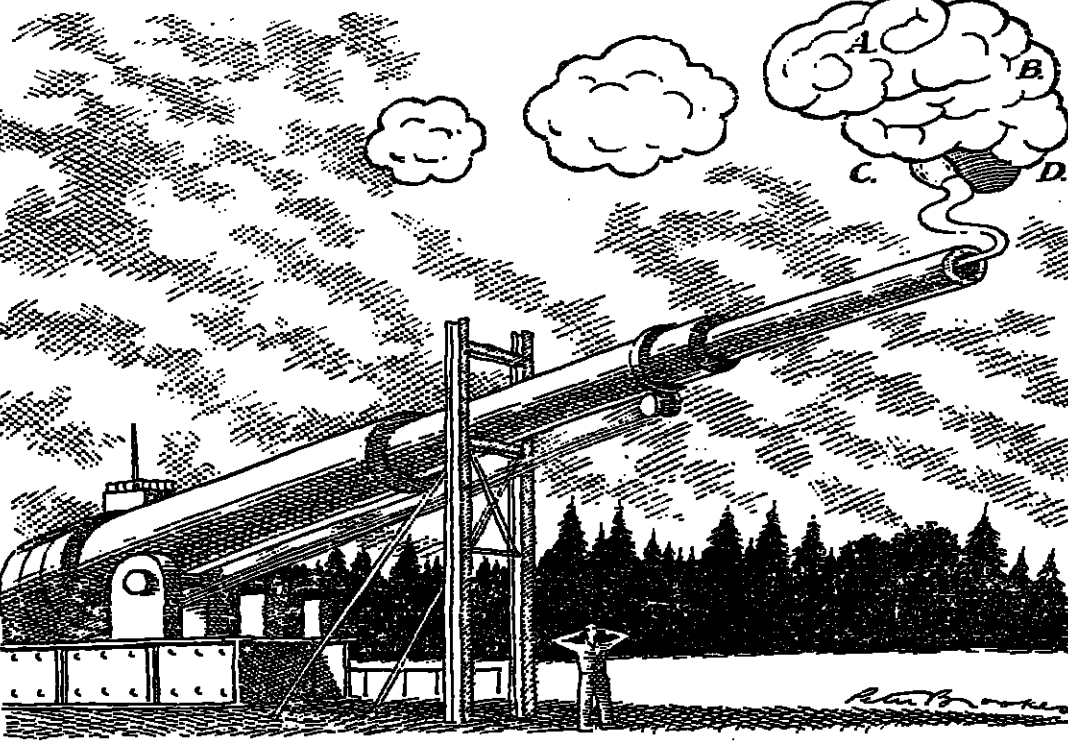
have already yielded medicines for Hodgkin's disease, Parkinson's disease, multiple sclerosis, malaria, leukaemia, dysentery, hypertension, heart surgery and epilepsy, as well as a form of birth control and a well known brand of insecticide, but the search for botanically based cures has scarcely started.

Almost as daunting is the need for education. Politicians and landowners have to be convinced of the continuing tax revenue, export earnings and profits to be made from intelligently exploiting forests. Local people have to be persuaded to tap renewable resources, which can be more skilled and exhausting work than felling trees with chainsaws and matches. Traders, retailers and consumers must then be educated to buy exotic tropical products. We all enjoy cocoa, Brazil nuts, cashews, bananas, avocados and many other fruits of the forest, but it will take skilled marketing to make us familiar with the delicious tastes of cupacu or acai. These are practical ways of saving the rainforest.

The author is Director of the Royal Geographical Society.

Science with head in the air and finger on the trigger

Bernard Levin sees human intelligence, and a noble discipline, betrayed in the drive to build a supergun



The story of the magic guns continues: a moment ago it was Italy's turn to wonder whether it has got a fearsome weapon or some of Harold Wilson's pipes, and now the quest goes to Germany. Why has Andorra been left out?

But — to my own astonishment, for this is the kind of thing that I would not normally let myself even think — I am rather glad that Dr Bull is dead, and I fervently hope that he will stay dead indefinitely.

When I was very young, there was a bogeyman called Sir Basil Zaharoff; somebody wrote a book called *Merchants of Death*, and he figured prominently in it. The merchandise consisted of weapons; Zaharoff was the leading arms manufacturer of the day, and this was thought reprehensible, though all sorts of other wickednesses were attributed to him, many of them, I fear, fully justified.

In those days, of course, arms meant nothing much worse than machine-guns, because there wasn't anything much worse than machine-guns. Today, when nerve gas is sold in Boots and hydrogen bombs in Mr Patel's corner shop along with lollipops and the newspapers, we are less sensitive, particularly because much of the arms trade has been nationalized; we do not think it odd to say that Britain, rather than Vickers, has just piped the French or the Swedes on a contract to help some gang of bloodthirsty bandits in Africa murder more of their population more cost-effectively, while simultaneously arming the bandits' rivals against the day they come to power and start doing a bit of murdering on their own account. So although somebody must still manufacture the weapons, the odium which used to cling to Zaharoff and his like is nowadays mild, and no one would bring out a sequel to *Merchants of Death* which fingered specific arms traders. Except, perhaps, Dr Bull.

Dr Bull, for me, epitomizes the corruption of science that has gone on with ever-increasing speed since the Second World War. The corruption has nothing to do with backhanders or falsification of data: it is the principle that so much of today's science lives by: if it can be done, it must be done. Let me give an example.

I have taken no part in the argument over embryo research, apart, naturally, from assuming that whatever Lady Warnock believes, the opposite is almost certain to be true; but when it got to the bit about choosing — choosing, not predicting — the sex of an unborn child, I stopped and thought about India. When the technique gets there, and get there it assuredly will, there will be a demographic catastrophe without precedent in all history; so powerful is the desire (there are obvious economic reasons) for male children, that even the surreptitious killing of females at birth has long been practised, some say in considerable numbers. What do you suppose will happen when there have been a few generations of Indian parents in a position to ensure that all their children are male? Would such considerations deter Dr Robert Winston, dripping with the certainty of his rectitude?

When I think of scientists like Pasteur and McIndoe, Gowland Hopkins and Karl von Frisch, Candian and Fleming, Jeans and Eddington, I feel that I am in

another universe, though I was born when many of these were still alive (I was the last journalist to interview Fleming). I would like to ask them all for their candid opinions of Dr Bull; I would like to ask Galileo most of all.

For today's science cannot throw off responsibility for men like Bull, if only because it was in the present climate of science that he developed his beliefs. He was a genius, and therefore believed he could do whatever he wished with the guns he developed, without in any way being obliged to justify their use.

So obsessed was he with his abilities that he broke the law in the United States by selling weapons to South Africa, a criminal offence under American embargo laws, and went to prison. (He had become an American citizen, apparently in a huff because his native Canada would not give him the facilities he needed for his research, together with the *carte blanche* he wanted for the results.) But there is no evidence that he wished to supply South Africa with arms because he

admired apartheid; it is even unlikely that he did so because he would make money by the transaction. He seems to have made his fearsome weapons for no better reason than that he was able to make them, and nobody else could; from that followed the belief that those who bought them might as well use them.

He supplied Iraq with them during the Iran-Iraq war; nobody seems to be sure whether he was selling them to Iran at the same time, but it is very likely; certainly he would have had no qualms about doing so. Indeed, it is clear that qualms were things he would not have noticed if he had woken up in the middle of the night and found them holding hands and dancing round his bed.

China, Yugoslavia, the Soviet Union, Chile — any nation which would bow down and worship at his monster guns could buy them. And he certainly was not driven by ideology; though the superguns of recent notoriety were going to Iraq, no doubt to be turned against Israel, I am sure he was no more anti-Semitic or anti-Zionist than

he was pro-Botha in the South African deal. The world is still awash with mad dogs; the Gadafis and Mengistus, Kim Il Sungs and Saddams Hussains, Deng Xiaopings and Ayatollahs. It is only a few months, after all, since Ceausescu was put down. But these rulers of bloody fiefdoms have a logic that is recognizable, even if it consists of nothing but a gang of thugs enjoying luxury while their subjects starve. The Dr Bulls are something altogether different.

Werner von Braun is the nearest parallel. He had at least the practical sense to hitch his wagon to one horse at a time — first Hitler, then the United States — whereas Bull would deal with anyone who had the space to erect one of his guns and the inclination to fire it. But the deeper similarity is what is important; it is the nature, rare and terrible, which is literally incapable of understanding moral terms like right and wrong, as a man blind from birth cannot understand colours. (It is only a coincidence that Bull's interest in long-range ballistics was kindled by the wartime German rockets which were devised by von Braun, but it is an entertaining one.) Most such people live obscure lives, though from time to time one may commit murder and get into the headlines; occasionally, however, they are men of gigantic intellect, with understanding beyond even the rest of their generation of scientists, analysing and innovating at a level which ordinary mortals not only cannot aspire to but cannot even recognize. What should we do, what can we do, with these? We usually claim that we take from them what is valuable and leave the rest, but it is an empty boast; many bought Dr Bull's goods, but did any manage to tie him for long to loyalty, wisdom or responsibility?

The world will play who-shot-him for years to come; there is no shortage of candidates. But my interest in him is now limited to the comforting thought that he is dead. I have no real hope that he will prove to be the last of his kind, but perhaps his fate will warn off a few. Anyway, there is an irony to relish in the fact that the man who made the world's biggest gun perished by one of the smallest.

Cost defective benefits

The Department of Social Security has paid £6.4 million in rent for offices in central London that stood empty for 14 months. The lease on three storeys of the Adelphi building was signed in October 1988, but they remained unoccupied until January this year, when the first DSS staff arrived. Other staff are still waiting to move in and some 500 staff are eventually due to be accommodated at the 1930s building near Victoria Embankment, in a move designed to make the DSS's operations more cost-effective. When *The Times* put the unhappy tale to the relevant tenant, the DSS washed its hands of the matter. "The Department of Health is the estate manager. All inquiries should be directed to them, not us," said a spokesman.

For the Department of Health, a spokeswoman intoned: "It takes time to modify buildings. There were problems with the air conditioning and computer system, and partitions had to be put in. Ask the Property Services Agency." The PSA said to ask Property Holdings. It reluctantly confirmed that the DSS pays rent of £55 a square foot, which is near the upper end of the scale, because of the prime site the building occupies, and has been doing so for 18 months. Both Tory and Labour MPs yesterday said that they would raise the matter on the Commons Social Services Select committee. The DSS decided it needed the new office space to house — yes, its economists.

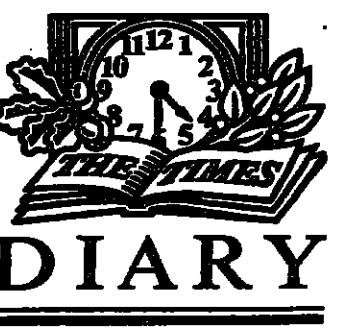
There is no question of the opening of Jim Henson's film of *Road Dahl's The Witches* on May 25 being delayed following his death. But the opening will now become a memorial to the Muppet master who died in a New York hospital yesterday. Henson, who achieved the near impossible task of transforming Anjelica Huston into a hideous monster for the film, will be much missed.

Open verdict

Was BBC Radio breaking the law last night when it interviewed "12 good men and true" about their experiences as jurors? Strictly speaking, going-on in the jury room cannot be divulged, and the Lord Chancellor's Department said yesterday, before transmission, that it would be "taking note" of the interviews. The BBC, however, is confident that the rules are



insufficiently ambiguous to allow discussion when the jurors and cases are not identified (this newspaper last year conducted a



similar exercise without sanction). The findings of the programme, says John Mortimer, a participant, are depressing. The general picture is that "no one paid any attention during the proceedings, and some did not listen at all". Yet the author and barrister says his faith in the jury system is unshaken. "If we left all the decisions to judges, we would get equally blurred, prejudiced and lazy answers about how they arrived at them."

McEwan's miss

Back in the days when there was a cold war, the CIA and MI6 mounted a joint operation to tunnel underneath the Berlin Wall, tap the KGB telephone cable and record the results on hundreds of specially manufactured tape-recorders. Operation Gold is now the subject of two books: a non-fictional account by James Rusbridger entitled *The Intelligence Game* and a fictional treatment in Ian McEwan's latest novel, *The Innocent*. Rusbridger appeared on BBC2's *The Late Show* last week to talk about the operation, and produced one of

Bully for you

Tory MPs, loyal to the last to British beef, are staging their own tasting ceremony on the Commons Terrace today. The event has been organized by Robert Adley, MP for Christchurch, who has also tabled a Commons motion condemning the relentless attack on British farmers by professors who he says display symptoms akin to BSE. Top of the menu will be steak supreme, prepared under the watchful eye of Cheltenham MP Sir Charles Irving, chairman of the Commons catering committee. A variety of beef dishes will be served to show solidarity with the beleaguered British cow. "British beef is the best in the world and just to prove we mean it we will eat it after it has been cooked in our very own Commons kitchens," enthuses Sir Charles.

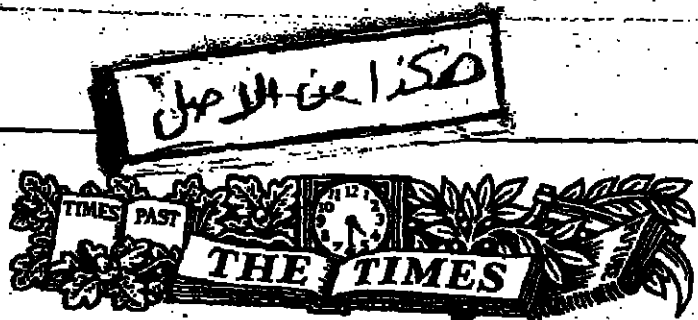
On the beaches

Fifty years ago, Major Toby Taylor was sitting on a French beach. "Brushing away a few dead Frenchmen," as

he put it yesterday, "I arranged a circle of deckchairs, and we all sat down and waited to be evacuated." With about 40 other Dunkirk veterans, Taylor will today be at the Imperial War Museum for a reunion to celebrate the publication of Ronald Atkin's *Pillar of Fire: Dunkirk 1940*. According to Taylor, the men on the beach were very orderly and patient. "I had been slightly wounded in the shoulder, so I wandered off into the town — which was being bombed and shelled — to find medical help. On the way I had my hair cut by a barber and saw my face in a mirror for the first time for days. I looked about 90; I was 21."

Taylor was eventually evacuated after four days by a hospital ship, which was already drawing away when he arrived. "Someone leaning over the stern called to me to jump; which I did, clinging on with one hand. And he dragged me over the side. The clean, modern ship was like heaven after the hell of bombing, shelling and stinks I had left behind." Also present will be Albert Gaskin, of the King's Shropshire Light Infantry, who will be remembering his messmate Corporal Friday, according to the Imperial War Museum, the first British casualty of the war, killed on December 9, 1939.

Red faces at the White House, where visitors are liberally sprinkled with souvenir matchbooks embossed with the presidential crest. The firm which makes them has recently moved operations. Now, beneath the proud symbol of the United States' highest office, appear the words: "Made in Canada."



1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 071-782 500

MAD COWS AND ENGLISHMEN

For all his smiling assurances, Mr John Gummer's handling of bovine spongiform encephalopathy did not inspire any more confidence than did his predecessor's handling of salmonella. Public nervousness over mad cow disease in Britain at the moment is not so much over the disease but over the official response. The Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food would do well to address himself to this institutional malaise.

The condition is chronic and the symptoms well known. The public is fed on a diet of recycled official phrases — "official" would not be too strong a word — about how everything is fine and there is nothing to worry about, mixed with nasty-tasting scare stories sometimes deriving from learned but non-governmental experts whose opinions no responsible journalist can ignore and no sensational journalist apparently resist. The latter syndrome — mad press disease — is not excusable. But shrewd ministers should nowadays at least build the disorder into their calculations.

Public bodies, such as those dealing with school or hospital meals, are irresponsible in reacting to the atmosphere of panic by sudden and capricious bans on all British beef products. The panic is based on ignorance, not all of which is excusable. There is a small risk in all food, including the most natural, but the circumstances in which the risk arises are not beyond analysis and rational assessment.

BSE is a disease of the brain and spinal cord of cattle, and the risk of infection is confined to the consumption of those parts, and even then only if there has not been adequate heat treatment. The possibility that BSE could be transferred to humans is speculative, based on the argument that the causative agent seems to have transferred from sheep to cattle, and therefore might conceivably jump the species barrier again. Drastic steps have already been enforced to remove BSE-infected meat from the animal and human food chain.

Spongiform encephalopathy is endemic in the sheep population, and known there as scrapie. There is no reason to believe British beef is now more dangerous to humans than British mutton and lamb has been for years. In so far as there is controversy among the

experts, this is largely about how to eradicate the disease from British cattle in due course, rather than how to protect the public now. Hence the formal public reassurance yesterday from the Government's Chief Medical Officer, Sir Donald Acheson.

Food manufacture is advanced technology, driven by considerations of productivity and profit. The original transmission of the agent responsible for BSE seems to have occurred when the meat production business realized there could be even more profit if the industry consumed its own entrails by feeding protein extracted from the otherwise unmarketable parts of sheep to cows and perhaps to cats.

Whether nature has a taboo against feeding vegetarian animals to each other is for biologically-minded mystics to discuss. The rest of us can have no complaint at such profitable ingenuity, except when there appears the slightest risk of regulators and inspectors not doing their job. The industry requires close monitoring by independent authorities, and the Ministry of Agriculture requires a standard of clarity, openness and unequivocal truthfulness in public statements that has not, in the past, been characteristic.

A categorical assurance from Mr Gummer that no parts of any British animal known to be affected or its offspring are being consumed in any way, even as pet food and even abroad, is now necessary. If he gives that assurance, he is entitled to be believed. What worries the public is its total lack of confidence in ministerial assurances to date. The Government collectively has yet to convince sceptics that the changes in food safety introduced after the salmonella scare were more than cosmetic. There was then evidence of internecine civil servants and self-interested industrial and research lobbyists playing fast and loose with public concern. Complete ministerial disclosure of everything that is known or suspected about BSE is essential, preferably under cross-questioning by the forthcoming inquiry of the House of Commons Select Committee on Agriculture. Intelligently applied scepticism is the quickest route back to public confidence in British beef.

A MATTER FOR BRITISH STEEL

Thatcherism has come to Ravenscraig and, some would say, not before time. Yesterday's announcement by British Steel of the closure of the strip mill at the steel complex near Motherwell was met with a predictable outcry in Scotland and at Westminster. The convenor of the shop stewards said that it was an outrage. The Scottish National Party said that it was "the grossest possible betrayal of one of the finest workforces anywhere in Europe". The Secretary of State for Scotland, Mr Malcolm Rifkind, who had his unhappiest afternoon in the Commons since the fiasco over the poll tax rebate, described the decision as "arbitrary and unreasonable".

The writing had long been on the wall for Ravenscraig, and in the clearest and firmest of hands. The four-and-a-half decades since the end of the war have seen the industrial face of Scotland change beyond recognition. Shipbuilding was the first to go. The car industry did not long survive the 60s. In the 1970s it was the turn of coal. Particularly since privatization, steel was bound to follow. The Scottish industry minister, Mr Ian Lang, made it plain earlier this year that there was nothing the Government either could or would do to save Ravenscraig from closure. "We take a hands-off approach," he said, "and believe industrialists are better managers". Investment decisions were for British Steel. These should be informed by economic rather than geographical criteria.

This makes Mr Rifkind's response in the Commons the more curious. The closure will initially entail the loss of almost 800 jobs, and could well mean the end of steel production in Scotland within four or five years. Sir Robert Scholey, the BSC chairman, spelled out the reasons in unemotional terms. Demand has fallen by more than 10 per cent in the past year. This, together with an increase in imports, has put the company under pressure to lower costs.

Yet what do Mr Rifkind and his Cabinet colleagues expect to happen? When Labour's

industry spokesman, Mr Gordon Brown, demanded that British Steel be summoned to "explain themselves", the meaning was clear: public subsidy to keep the plant open. But BSC has no explaining to do. Its function, as its chairman repeated yesterday, is to present competitively-priced, high-quality steel. That is not a role they could long sustain if investment were to be misdirected to unprofitable enterprise. All over England, former steelworkers understand this point. Has 10 years of Conservative Government still not brought it home to Scotland, nor even to the Scottish Office?

It is as well for the Conservatives that the British Steel announcement did not come before the recent local elections and last week's reasonably successful party conference in Aberdeen. Mr Rifkind's embarrassment, however, is as nothing compared with that of his junior colleague, Mr Michael Forsyth, who is also the party's Scottish chairman.

Mr Forsyth made an uncharacteristically accommodating call yesterday for "unity of purpose" between all of Scotland's political parties; the workers of Ravenscraig, he said, "deserved to be supported". This will occasion some hilarity in other parts of the political spectrum because Mr Forsyth has been a leading apostle north of the border of free-market economics and a consistent critic of the "dependence" economy.

There is no law of nature which says that steel-making is essential to a nation's, or a region's, well-being. If banking, knitwear and electronics make more money, and offer more jobs, then those are the directions in which the formidable skills and energies of the Scottish people should be directed. A return to the government intervention to prop up uncompetitive industries that characterized Labour's last period in power is unthinkable. Messrs Rifkind and Forsyth should not, by their words, offer encouragement to such reaction.

ART IN THE MARKET-PLACE

Van Gogh's portrait of his doctor fetches almost £50 million at an auction in New York. Renoir's *Au Moulin de la Galette* is likely to go for nearly as much tonight. Monstrous cry the kiljoys. How can one painting be worth so much? Shame! cry the publicly-funded museums. How shall we ever be able to afford a masterpiece? Both should think again.

The price of a painting is determined — like the price of anything else — by supply and demand. The supply of Old Masters is, as the painters are now dead, fixed. Moreover, the supply entering the open market is small; partly because masterpieces are, by definition, rare treats, mainly because almost all have long since been snapped up by national museums.

Yet the demand has been rising fast: a consequence of 45 years of peace and prosperity, and of a relatively recent but welcome appreciation of Western culture by the East. The economies of America and Japan have been more successful than Britain's: so those two countries have more money to spend on art. But Britons can at least be grateful that, unlike the Japanese, they have had centuries to build up great collections of art, much of which was either expropriated from other countries or bought for very little.

The price of a painting should be exactly what the bidder who is keenest to buy it is prepared to pay. How else can a work of art be valued? There is every reason for a masterpiece — which gives immense aesthetic delight, is of great historical importance and is, of course, unique — to fetch huge sums of money. Most countries' public museums have been priced out of the market for these record-breaking paintings. But if they were more flexible about

their own collections, they could increase the market supply of great paintings and hence bring the prices down to more affordable levels.

British museums were furious when the arts minister, Mr Richard Luce, suggested in 1987 that they might consider selling off unwanted works in order to broaden their collections. So vehement were they that he eventually backtracked, saying he thought they should only think of disposing of duplicate works.

They should do more than that; but they should be wary about which works they sell. It is tempting to suggest that works that are not on display should be put up for sale to finance other purchases. That could be a mistake. Most of these works are hidden in basements because they are unfashionable. Now, they would go for a song; in a few decades' time, perhaps for large sums. Only 40 years ago, Victorian paintings were derided. Today they can fetch hundreds of thousands of pounds.

It would make more sense for the galleries to look at the balance of their displayed collections and see how they could be improved. The sale of one out of many Gainsboroughs might raise enough money to fill a whole new room dedicated to a lesser artist.

The artistic judgement of previous curators is not sacrosanct. Requests and acquisitions since their time will have changed the balance they created. Now is the time for museum trustees to behave imaginatively. No collection is perfect; all can be strengthened. Railing against the market is not the most constructive way to go about the task.

BSE and possible dangers in beef

From Professor Emeritus Ivor H. Mills

Sir, The article by Dr James Le Fanu ("Taking an axe to crush a microbe", May 15) does not do justice to the problem raised by the presence of bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) in animals used for human consumption.

As members of the Endocrine Committee of the Medical Research Council in the 1970s, we had to consider the possible risk of spreading the similar human disease Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease by using pituitary glands from cadavers to prepare human growth hormone. Injection of this hormone is essential for children who do not grow because they lack the hormone.

We went to considerable trouble and took advice from various experts, including those working on scrapie in sheep, to convince ourselves that the procedure to extract the growth hormone was safe. Nevertheless, a limited number of children around the world did develop Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease, including two in this country.

The use of human pituitary growth hormone was stopped and fortunately bio-engineering enabled a totally different type of procedure to be used, avoiding the use of human pituitaries.

What I think we should learn from this is that it is not good enough to say the chances of harm, we think, are very small. It is unlikely that cows with BSE are not harbouring the active agent for some months before the cow manifests the disease. We must, therefore, take steps to ensure the safety of what we eat. Rigorous exclusion of the animal tissues involved from the food of humans and animals is essential.

If BSE is like scrapie, the lymphoid tissue is involved in the

early infective stage and this (spleen, thymus, tonsils and intestines) must be rejected as well as the brain and spinal cord. It must be done with sufficient care that potentially infected tissues cannot contaminate the meat we are to eat.

It is unwise to allow the use of these tissues from calves under six months, as at present, just because in scrapie they are not obviously infective at that stage. We do not know that the agent is not transmitted from mother to young at the time of birth. The forceful exclusion of all the tissues from sheep and cattle which could carry the agent is the most essential precaution.

The report that British beef will not be provided by some authorities in need for schoolchildren does not reflect a sensible precaution. The muscle of infected animals appears to be safe as shown by our consumption over several decades of meat from sheep, some of which might be carrying scrapie at the stage when it is not obvious. The risks must be much greater from made up meat products when unscrupulous people could allow some of the banned tissues to get into the prepared foods.

It must similarly be just as potentially dangerous to allow the banned tissues to be used to feed chickens and pigs, just because the disease, so far, has not appeared in these species. When it appears it is too late, as we now know with cattle.

Yours faithfully,
IVOR H. MILLS,
University of Cambridge
Clinical School,
Douglas House,
Addenbrooke's Hospital,
Trumpington Road,
Cambridge,
May 16.

Future of the mail

From the General Secretary, Union of Communication Workers

Sir, Your special report on the Royal Mail (May 8) failed to alert the public to the possibility of a serious reduction in service. Make no mistake, the Royal Mail would like to know if the public would be prepared to accept a single, later delivery.

Mr Bill Cockburn, managing director, asserts that if customers signal that current service standards are "not so important to them", this would allow delivery staff to enjoy more attractive attendance times. What he does not mention is that abandoning the second delivery would boost profits by giving a worse service with around 10,000 fewer delivery staff.

The union agrees that the problems of increasing mail volumes and a shrinking labour market are very real and must be tackled with vision. We doubt whether the public would accept just one delivery throughout the day, even with guarantees on the overnight mail.

Yours sincerely,
ALLAN TUFTIN,
General Secretary,
The Union of Communication Workers,
UCW House, Crescent Lane, SW4.

Five men in a boat

From Commander H. S. A. Malleson, RN (Ret)

Sir, Having spent much time in Montagu whalers in the past, notably in Fleet and Botilla regattas, I was interested in the letter from Mr Rivington on the subject (May 9).

The bow or was normally placed to starboard, but when taking part in pulling races, the side chosen depended on the weight and strength of the bow or. Whalers could be of 25ft or 27ft length — mostly the latter. They were better under sail than oars, but in either case they were handy seaboats.

I still have two silver model oars as mementoes of winning crews in Atlantic Fleet regattas in 1930.

Yours faithfully,
HUGH MALLESON,
Bear House, Dallington,
Heathfield, East Sussex.

From the Director of HMS Belfast

Sir, I was most interested in Mr Rivington's letter about the technicalities of cut-throat rowing in a Montagu whaler.

Campbell libel case

From Mr Brian Raymond

Sir, I hesitate to comment on Bernard Levin's tirade (May 10) against my statement in open court in the Duncan Campbell case, but there are a couple of points which deserve to be heard.

Every word of a statement made after the settlement of a libel action has to be agreed by the lawyers who represent the defendants and the BBC's solicitor is as skilled and hard-headed as any you could find. Mr Levin can call it "bilge" if he likes, but he should at least acknowledge that what I said in court was specifically endorsed by both the BBC and the author of the defamatory play.

As the broadcast of this play coincided with the publication of the new and much-praised BBC guidelines on the depiction of real persons in drama, a number of viewers felt that the allegations of shoplifting, betrayal of sources, etc., must be true, or the BBC would not have dared to put it out.

The wounds caused by being called a name you do not deserve

Poll tax benefits

From the Leader of Wandsworth Borough Council

Sir, Your allegation about "manipulation of government grants to certain 'flagship' London councils" (leading article, May 8) is wrong. Wandsworth achieved the lowest community charge in mainland Britain despite the lowest level of government grant in inner London.

Although Wandsworth benefits from the safety-net redistribution between authorities, we benefit less than several other London boroughs, and the sum involved is so small that without it we would still enjoy one of the lowest charges in England. Wandsworth residents voted last week for Conservatives to continue their long record of low-cost good quality services, and not, as you implied, in a short-sighted response to an electoral bribe.

However reluctant you may be to acknowledge it, the community charge could achieve its aim of strengthened accountability, given time and stability.

Yours faithfully,
PAUL BEREKSFORD,
Leader,
Wandsworth Borough Council,
Leader's Room,
The Town Hall,
Wandsworth High Street, SW18.
May 9.

I am sure that readers would like to know that the technical term for rowing in the Royal Navy is "pulling". It appears that the term arises because naval seamen were not very concerned with the finer points of rowing, such as feathering the oar at the end of each stroke, but more concerned with getting the blade square into the water and pulling it through with maximum force.

Yours faithfully,
TONY COLLINS, Director,
HMS Belfast, Morgans Lane,
Tooley Street, SE1.

From Mr Keith C. Pettitt
Sir, Mr R. T. Rivington's letter about the five-man Montagu whalers raises an interesting question.

Why the odd number of oarsmen? Was this because there were too many men for a four-man boat, or not enough for a six?

Yours faithfully,
KEITH C. PETTITT,
5 Gauness Terrace,
Copley,
Bishop Auckland,
Co. Durham,
May 11.

bell's libel action against the BBC as a peg on which to hang his oversimplified argument, Bernard Levin has forgotten that an allegation of the commission of a crime is one of the few exceptions to that "only", and Duncan Campbell was, as Levin says, by accepted implication accused of shoplifting.

In the absence of either evidence of publication with malice, when an award of aggravated damages may be justified, or proof of special damage, a new law of defamation, long overdue, should limit any possible award of damages to costs and a nominal sum — say, £500 — and speedy publication of an agreed correction or retraction of the libel. Would-be claimants as well as vulnerable offenders, never mind their lawyers, would welcome the justice of such a measure to terminate the present farcical situation.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL RUBINSTEIN,
Rubinstein Callingham
Folden & Gale,
2 Raymond Buildings,
Gray's Inn, WC1.
May 10.

From Mr Michael Rubinstein
Sir, Right, many may think Bernard Levin to be, in principle, to suggest that libel claims should be actionable, like claims in slander, only where special damage — actual monetary loss by the claimant — can be proved. In quoting the settlement of Duncan Camp-

bell's libel action against the BBC as a peg on which to hang his oversimplified argument, Bernard Levin has forgotten that an allegation of the commission of a crime is one of the few exceptions to that "only", and Duncan Campbell was, as Levin says, by accepted implication accused of shoplifting.

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Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — (071) 782 5046.

British help for Eastern Europe

From Dr R. G. Bowers

Sir, "Where are the British?" asks R. H. Nicholson (May 8) in terms of English language teaching (ELT) for Eastern Europe. Had he asked the authorities in Poland, in Hungary, in Czechoslovakia and the German Democratic Republic he would have got the answer.

Four hundred thousand pounds of project assistance to accelerated teacher training was announced last week by Douglas Hurd for Poland. A further £1.2 million over five years will be available to support English for management training and development.

In Hungary we await the new government's authorisation of a £1.75 million Know-How project to set up a National Institute of Languages with British, as well as German, staff and resources — to form the hub of a new teacher-training network which ties in with World Bank proposals for the reform of higher education.

English for management is being provided already by such organisations as International House and the Bell Educational Trust. Summer schools and training courses have been agreed for Czechoslovakia and the GDR, the latter with West German collaboration.

At the end of this month high-level discussions in Prague, Bratislava, and East Berlin will

establish those governments' own priorities for spending the significant funds which HM Government has already earmarked for ELT.

Voluntary Service Overseas will be putting British teachers into Poland — not at random but into those institutions where they will have the greatest impact. The demand is huge — an additional 100,000 teachers needed across Eastern Europe by the end of the decade — and it will not be met by short-term expedients. We, with the new authorities, are looking at systemic change through training, books, examinations. This is a big investment but one which the British Council, with wholehearted Government support, is prepared to make.

And of course all offers of scholarships and attachments under Know-How funding and existing programmes carry with them the provision of language tuition where necessary. Mr Nicholson's doctors from Charles University need have no fear on this score, and the Council office in Prague will make the necessary arrangements.

Yours faithfully,
ROGER BOWERS (Controller,
English Language and Literature),
The British Council,
10 Spring Gardens, SW1.
May 10.

From the President and the Chairman of the British Polish Legal Association

Sir, We are one of many bodies which have been helped by the creation of the Know-How Fund, and while it must be accepted that Mr Boyes's criticism (report, May 1) has some foundation, the activities of this association would not have been possible without the understanding and prompt help of the fund.

In the last six months we have held a highly successful seminar on commercial and banking law in Warsaw, attended by about 150 Polish lawyers. We have brought over the first wave of trainee lawyers, who have been offered hospitality by leading City firms and barristers' chambers, and the second wave is arriving early in June. We will hold a seminar near Oxford on July 6 on "Investment in property" and "New policy for housing" with a high-powered Polish delegation, led by the Deputy Minister of Justice and leading barristers and professors in that field.

On September 2 we start a joint seminar on protection of the environment, followed by an

administrative and local government law seminar, both to be held in Krakow. The British delegation will be under the leadership of Lord Ackner and Sir Frank Layfield, QC.

On September 24, a workshop seminar on commercial law in Warsaw will be led by Professor Roy Goode, QC, the Norton Rose Professor of Law at Oxford. A scheme of establishing a Faculty of English Law at a Polish university is under consideration; a judicial exchange next year is at a planning stage, and further legal training and other legal activities in 1991 are contemplated.

Some of the work we do is still privately funded and all of it voluntary. There can be no doubt that the taxpayer is receiving good value for comparatively little money. Most important of all, our activities are carried out in conjunction with the Polish National Bar Council or their Ministry of Justice.

Yours faithfully,
RAWLINSON, President,
GEORGE DOBRY, Chairman,
British Polish Legal Association,
40 Chester Row, SW1.
May 16.

Architecture courses

From Mr Bernard Kaukas

Sir, It was with ironic amusement that I read of the Department of Education's proposal to reduce the length of architectural degree courses from five to four years (report, May 4).

In 1950 a number of third-year students lobbied their MPs for just such a reduction. In their case, however, the urge to do so was pretty strong. Having served in the Armed Forces for five to six years, and having embarked in 1947 on a five-year full-time course of architecture, the idea of 11 years devoted to earning an undoubted pittance, and not very much more to follow, seemed intolerable. However, each of us, in truth at that stage, was aware of just how little we knew of the craft we had espoused.

Believe me (and I hope my fellow professionals), five years is just long enough to acquire an apprenticeship in draughtsmanship and a rudimentary knowledge of building technology, coupled with the possibility of a flair for design. There is no end to studentship in architecture.

Yours truly,
BERNARD KAUKAS,
13 Lynwood Road,
Ealing, W5.
May 4.

Branches of surgery

From Mrs Enid M. Byford

Sir, Having kept a morning appointment with my gynaecologist I returned home for an afternoon appointment with the local chimney sweep, whose van advertises that he is a furologist.

Yours faithfully,
ENID M. BYFORD,
Fairhaven, Oake,
Taunton,
Somerset.
May 10.

Business ethics

From the Reverend Professor Jack Mahoney

Sir, Professor Barry ("When the businessman is victimized", May 3) shows scant awareness of how the study of business ethics has become publicly established in the past 20 years in the United States and has recently begun to develop fruitfully in Britain and the rest of Europe.

He parades the standard defence of insider-trading in terms of the efficient marketing of information and the alleged lack of victims. He takes no account, however, of its corrosive effect on the social and market bonds of trust, or of its abuse of privilege, or of the loss to sellers unaware of the potential value of their shares.

Professor Barry's objections to the social accountability of business should not mask the minimal ethical expectations that business should provide a service of value to society and avoid deliberately or carelessly inflicting harm.

Such an adversarial relationship between business people and the rest of society, with ethics in business as the battlefield, disregards the many members of the business community who are themselves concerned that business be conducted ethically for the benefit of all concerned.

Yours faithfully,
JACK MAHONEY (Director,
Business Ethics Research Centre),
King's College, WC2.
May 4.

High-class vegetables

From Mr N. R. MacNicol

Sir, Apart from the Gloucester market episode (letter, May 15), the only evidence I can recall that a social stigma attaches to some vegetables is a remark overheard in an RAF officers' mess about 20 years ago. An aristocratic member waved away the dish offered by a waiter with the haughty and emphatic dictum, "Swede is not an officer's vegetable".

Those of us who had already been served ate ours in a guilty silence.

Yours faithfully,
N. R. MACNICOL,
9 Church Lane,
Greetham,
Rutland.
May 15.

Return to sender

From Mr John E. Crowther

Sir, I recently had cause to complain to the Post Office about misdirected and lost mail.

The Bradford Customer Complaints Unit forwarded a form for completion and return in their pre-paid, self-addressed envelope — on the back of which is printed: "If undelivered please return to..."

Yours, per fax,
JOHN E. CROWTHER,
28 Milton Avenue,
Sowerby Bridge, West Yorkshire,
May 14.

ARTS

As yet another Ibsen production opens, Benedict Nightingale considers the appeal of the Norwegian playwright

More than filial devotion

Wc do not seem able to keep that grim 19th-century seer off our late 20th-century stages. Indeed, the flow of Ibsen revivals has been threatening to break through the theatre's flood walls. *The Master Builder*, *Peer Gynt*, *When We Dead Awaken* and *Hedda Gabler* have all been revived at important addresses in recent months. And tonight, as if to celebrate what also happens to be Norwegian National Day, comes Peter Hall's production of *The Wild Duck* to the Phoenix.

Is it just a case of acknowledged classics making up for a shortage in the supply of new plays? The enthusiasm generated by John Wood's Solness at the RSC and Juliet Stevenson's Hedda at the National surely demands some less negative, less cynical explanation. Is it a collective act of respect to the father of modern realism?

That is like regularly journeying by steam train to honour George Stephenson, father of rail travel. The only reason to present any play is that, whenever and wherever it was actually written, it somehow remains contemporary. Perhaps Ibsen is more authentically up-to-the-minute than yesterday's trendy triumph.

Certainly, his prime subject is not one that obviously dates. As Ibsen sees it, we have an absolute duty to discover ourselves, become whosoever enlightened nature meant us to be, maximize our own freedom over all petty obstacles and sly encroachments. And those personal imperatives have political implications which have become very obvious in the Britain of the Eighties.

One might almost say that we have spent the decade defining liberty and discussing its rights and wrongs, its scope and boundaries. No wonder Ibsen is near the top of the theatrical agenda.

One might describe his mature oeuvre, from *Brand* to *When We Dead Awaken*, as a long, evolving debate about the nature of individuality itself. But that sounds too abstract, too academic. Rather, it is a series of vivid case-studies in which people are to be found groping, floundering, flailing through fogs, thickets and swamps in search of something as elusive as the Grail itself.

"I must think things out, try to find my own answer, discover what is right for me," Nora tells

Torvald as she prepares to slam out of the doll's house he has uxoriously built her. She might be speaking for every character from *Peer Gynt*, who persistently mistakes folly and compromise for self-fulfilment and truth, to the desperate, disappointed old men of Ibsen's last work.

Ibsen's emphasis changes, deepens with time. In the prose plays he wrote after the verse *Peer Gynt* in 1867, the problem is at first a society whose totems and taboos, pieties and constraints, shackle the body, clamp the mind, and end by hobbling the soul itself. It transforms Torvald into a smug domestic tyrant, Pastor Manders in *Ghosts* into an oppressive hypocrite, and Hedda Gabler into a fine, free spirit into a destructive neurotic. It defines Stockmann, the small-town health officer whose tactlessness unsettles the status quo, as *An Enemy of the People*.

Yet Ibsen came increasingly to see that the threat is not only, or even primarily, external. The inner perils are more powerful. There is, for instance, heredity as well as environment. Oswald may resist those "old dead ideas and old dead beliefs" his mother sums

up as "ghosts", but he cannot do much about the syphilis his father has bequeathed him. Nor has the arrival of penicillin demolished Ibsen's point. If we can cure VD, we have yet to overcome Aids or a dozen other illnesses. In any case, personal doom can take subtler, more insidious forms than a virus in the bloodstream. It can be a neurosis, an obsession, an overbearing conscience, as in *Rosmersholm*. It can simply be the fact of having lived too falsely too long.

That is the subject of the last plays, *The Master Builder* to *When We Dead Awaken*. Ibsen wrote them at a time when he was developing embarrassing crushes on a series of young women, and, consistently enough, they often involve ageing men's attempts to fan their emotional ashes into life. But how can one radically change the person one has inexorably made oneself?

When Master Builder Solness plunges from the all-too-symbolic tower he has rashly climbed, or sculptor Rubek is buried beneath an avalanche at the end of *When We Dead Awaken*, that is the question they leave behind.

It is dangerous, even fatal, this search for self-fulfilment. That is the lesson of *The Wild Duck*, too. Ibsen wrote this immediately after *An Enemy of the People*, in 1884, and it comes across as a corrective to that play's proselytizing libertarianism. Some people just cannot face too much reality.

Gregers Werle, that crusader for truth, does nothing but injury to Hjalmar Ekdal, the chronic self-deceiver, when he reveals that his daughter Hedwig may not be his own. As Shaw saw, this was an attack on "sham Ibsenism", on the sort of slavish disciple who

would institutionalize the master's beliefs and impose them on other people regardless of circumstances. Perhaps it was also Ibsen's criticism of Ibsen.

Certainly, it demonstrates two things. First, that Ibsen did not pursue his own emotional crusade so single-mindedly that he saw no need for qualifications or caveats. Second, that he mistrusted all "isms", even when they involved himself.

He cannot be categorized as conservative or liberal or radical. Indeed, both in his life and in his work he made no secret of his contempt for politicians, bureaucrats, journalists and other public people, believing that "there is absolutely no reasonable necessity for the individual to be a citizen" and that "the state is the curse of the individual".

Perhaps he is best described as a mandarin anarchist. "Aristocracy of the spirit" was the allegiance he admitted; but one suspects he would have quarrelled with his fellow-nobles, as he did with so many of his friends.

Yet that surely makes Ibsen more, not less, of a stimulant today. The questions he poses about freedom, obligation and duty still resonate.

To what extent can Solness be excused for hurting others in his hunt for professional success and personal fulfilment? How far is Stockmann justified in his attacks on the dictatorship of that "mob", the majority? Where, if anywhere, do the rights of the individual end and those of society begin?

Gregers Werle is still with us, forcing his notions of enlightenment on those who do not want them. He is selling copies of *Millitant* in Brent and hoping to be let back into the Labour Party.

Nor has feminism altogether abolished what Virginia Woolf called "the slow waterlogged sinking of Nora's will into Torvald's". She is biting her fingernails in suburbia.

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Grim? Henrik Ibsen, 1828-1906

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Gregers Werle, that crusader for truth, does nothing but injury to Hjalmar Ekdal, the chronic self-deceiver, when he reveals that his daughter Hedwig may not be his own. As Shaw saw, this was an attack on "sham Ibsenism", on the sort of slavish disciple who

would institutionalize the master's beliefs and impose them on other people regardless of circumstances. Perhaps it was also Ibsen's criticism of Ibsen.

Certainly, it demonstrates two things. First, that Ibsen did not pursue his own emotional crusade so single-mindedly that he saw no need for qualifications or caveats. Second, that he mistrusted all "isms", even when they involved himself.

He cannot be categorized as conservative or liberal or radical. Indeed, both in his life and in his work he made no secret of his contempt for politicians, bureaucrats, journalists and other public people, believing that "there is absolutely no reasonable necessity for the individual to be a citizen" and that "the state is the curse of the individual".

Perhaps he is best described as a mandarin anarchist. "Aristocracy of the spirit" was the allegiance he admitted; but one suspects he would have quarrelled with his fellow-nobles, as he did with so many of his friends.

Yet that surely makes Ibsen more, not less, of a stimulant today. The questions he poses about freedom, obligation and duty still resonate.

To what extent can Solness be excused for hurting others in his hunt for professional success and personal fulfilment? How far is Stockmann justified in his attacks on the dictatorship of that "mob", the majority? Where, if anywhere, do the rights of the individual end and those of society begin?

Gregers Werle is still with us, forcing his notions of enlightenment on those who do not want them. He is selling copies of *Millitant* in Brent and hoping to be let back into the Labour Party.

Nor has feminism altogether abolished what Virginia Woolf called "the slow waterlogged sinking of Nora's will into Torvald's". She is biting her fingernails in suburbia.

Hedda is fretfully demanding her 081 number be changed to 071, Peer Gynt accumulating junk bonds in the City, Rosmer agonizing about the Third World in some Hampstead eyrie, all of them dreaming of fuller, freer lives elsewhere. Ibsen, in short, is alive in the 1990s.

● The Wild Duck opens tonight at the Phoenix Theatre, Charing Cross Road, London WC2 (071-867 1044) at 7pm

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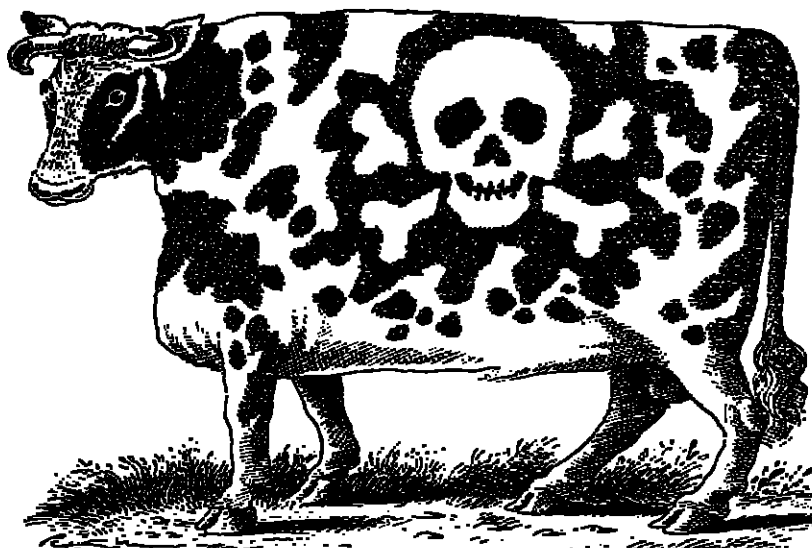
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HEALTH

Has mad cow disease acquired a tragic human face?

MEDICAL BRIEFING

Dr Thomas Stuttford



Dr Helen Grant is a neuro-pathologist who has been interested in the spongiform encephalopathies for more than 30 years. Despite, or perhaps because of, her specialized knowledge, she continued to enjoy roast beef — medium rather than rare — until last autumn, but now she has advised her family to stop eating it. Her decision has not been made because she fears that a slow virus — the organism, as yet unidentified, which causes bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) and the other spongiform encephalopathies — might be lurking in the small peripheral nerves running through her Sunday joint. In her opinion it is unlikely that even if the slow virus was present there would be enough to matter.

The Grant family has abandoned beef because Dr Grant feels that one of the measures designed to stop the spread of BSE — commonly known as "mad cow" disease — may be encouraging it. In Dr Grant's opinion, the heads of all slaughtered cattle should be incinerated; regulations demand only that the brains should be removed, so that there is no chance that they might be used to make sausages or meat pies. But before the brain can be scooped out, leaving the rest of the meat on the head for human consumption, the skull has to be split open with a bandsaw. And, just as a logman scatters sawdust, so can the butcher, unless he is very careful, spray particles of blood, bone and possibly infected brain on the carcass.

There is little doubt that BSE is closely allied to, if not identical to, scrapie in sheep, and kuru, Creutzfeldt-Jakob's disease and Gerstmann-Straussler-Scheinker's disease in humans, they all show the same characteristics in the way they attack the brain, producing the same horrific symptoms that inevitably lead to paralysis, insanity and death.

In each of the diseases there is a long incubation period — hence the term slow virus — but the length of this

incubation period depends on whether the slow virus has been transmitted by mouth or injected; in humans, for instance, Creutzfeldt-Jakob's disease has a much shorter incubation period when it follows the use of donated infected brain lining or a cornea, for graft surgery, or when it is induced in undersized children by the use of human growth hormone collected from the post-mortem room, a practice now discontinued.

All the diseases show evidence of genetic susceptibility. Suffolks and Cheviots are more vulnerable to scrapie than other breeds of sheep; in humans, Gerstmann-Straussler-Scheinker's disease is common in certain families, and Creutzfeldt-Jakob's disease is found 30 times more often in the eastern Mediterranean and north Africa than in Britain, but even in those countries where the incidence is high there are variations between different ethnic groups, and tribes within those groups. Dr Grant, while accepting that a genetic predisposition to the spongiform encephalopathies does exist, points out that there is a high incidence of the disease in those countries to which we have exported large quantities of sheep's brains and eyeballs with the object nerve still attached; until this statistic is totally explained, it will be impossible to state categorically that scrapie is not passed on to humans.

The mechanism of the spread of scrapie in sheep is unclear, but it can be given experimentally to a wide variety of mammals, including the chimpanzee. The anti-beef lobby argues that the disease has spread, through food, from sheep to cows, and cats, so why not to humans, particularly given the evidence that the communities that eat sheep's brains have a high rate of Creutzfeldt-Jakob's disease?

All doctors can say with certainty at this stage is that they do not know and that only studies of the incidence of Creutzfeldt-Jakob's disease over the next 20 to 30 years may provide the

answer. Judging from scrapie, an epidemic is unlikely, but people would be wise to avoid eating the brain and spinal tissue (which is used, for example, in meat pies) from all mammals, and any meat which might have been contaminated by it.

Keyhole means a kinder cut

Children have always been proud of surgical scars; a small, neat scar, which would delight a fashionable surgeon or his patient, provides no kudos on the playground, where what is needed is evidence of the drama survived. But times are changing. Recently, the first operation in Britain to remove a kidney — a nephrectomy — by minimal invasive surgery, or "key-

hole" surgery in popular jargon, was carried out in Portsmouth, and London is not far behind; just as soon as one team receives the blades for its endoscopic tissue disintegrator, a surgical instrument with the same role in the operating theatre as a blender has in the kitchen, it will be following Portsmouth's lead and doing nephrectomies by endoscopic surgery. A team at Guy's is already correcting several common congenital heart lesions by closed surgery, in which the instruments are introduced into the heart through the child's femoral vein rather than through an opened chest wall.

An endoscope is an illuminated telescope which allows a surgeon direct vision into the inside of the cavity in which he is working. There is no large incision, merely a puncture wound. The surgeon then passes instruments down

through the scope with which he can cut, tie, clip or extract.

The advent of lasers has made this surgery even more effective. The endoscope is often fitted with a minute camera, no bigger than a fingernail, which transmits a magnified colour picture on to a screen, which surgeons can watch as they operate with the instruments introduced down one or more tubes. The picture gives a view of the patient's organs which the old-style surgeon, with his wide incision, never achieved.

Minimally invasive surgery has advantages beyond the cosmetic gain of a small scar. A tiny puncture wound reduces blood loss and saves deeper tissues from damage caused by their separation or cutting. Having undergone this style of surgery, the patient is in hospital for only a day or two, rather than a week and more, and back at work within days instead of months.

Minimally invasive surgeons started on the urinary tract, but their activities have now spread to every part of the body. Ear, nose and throat specialists use it to operate on the sinuses and the larynx, gastrointestinal surgeons to remove gall bladders and gallstones, repair hernias, take out appendices or even portions of malignant bowel. Orthopaedic surgeons would now be lost without an arthroscope, and heart surgeons do an increasing number of closed operations. Urinary surgeons will soon be doing nephrectomies (the Portsmouth operation) and gynaecologists, hysterectomies. In some centres they have already drastically reduced the number of women who need a hysterectomy by using a laser to strip the uterine lining (endometrial ablation) rather than subjecting them to the major operation.

Minimal invasive surgery will remove much of the drama of surgery. Not unnaturally, traditionalists who have loved the atmosphere of the theatre will feel some regrets, but the

patient who is playing golf the week after the removal of a gall bladder is unlikely to share them.

When Professor Kurt Semm introduced endoscopic surgery into Germany, his outraged surgical colleagues petitioned to have him struck off; this year he was elected president of the German Gastroenterological Association. Surgery without a scalpel has come to stay.

New weapon to fight epilepsy

Hippocrates in 400BC was the first physician to realise that epilepsy was a disorder of brain function. But not until the 19th century was an effective treatment — bromides — introduced. Over the past 100 years, other drugs have been used with greatly improved results, but there has been little advance in the past 20 years. It is claimed that a new drug, Sabril vigabatrin, will bring hope to some patients whose attacks are at present poorly controlled.

One in 200 people have epilepsy, which is not a distinct disease but a symptom. Epilepsy is easily controlled in half of the patients and controlled with difficulty in a further 25%, but the remainder respond badly to current treatment. It is hoped that Sabril will help this group.

Seizures should be prevented, not only to avoid accidental injury, but also because each time a patient has a fit further damage is done to the brain.

Whatever the drugs prescribed, the patient's life-style is also important. A low blood-sugar can make a person more liable to have a fit, so that regular balanced meals, with the correct proportion of fats, proteins and carbohydrates, are essential; exercise on an empty stomach also lowers blood sugar. Alcohol should be taken in strict moderation. Tiredness, anxiety and infections also increase the liability to fits.

STAMMERING, Mike Rhodes says, is like having one foot nailed to the floor. Opinions, comments, criticisms — all wither before they become words, leaving the stammerer seething with frustration.

Stammering affects an estimated 500,000 people in Britain, most of whom are men — the ratio of men to women sufferers is 4:1. Sadly, most sufferers will never overcome their problem.

Mr Rhodes did. He overcame a lifelong stammer seven years ago, at the age of 45, and his life was changed.

Now Mr Rhodes, a Manchester-based advertising executive, has won seven cups for public speaking and is president of Stockport Speakers Club. At the office, he makes sales presentations to potential clients, a task which, for most of his life, was such a terrifying prospect that he would not consider it.

"It is impossible for most people to imagine just how frustrating stammering is," Mr Rhodes says. "You cannot strike up a conversation or put your point of view. You may have magical words inside, but they are locked up."

"A simple thing like the telephone is one of the stammerer's worst enemies because it is so intimidating to use. I remember having to read something to a client, who didn't know I stammered, over the phone. It took ages, and his embarrassment was almost tangible, but he couldn't ask me to stop."

The turnaround took place when Mr Rhodes went to Scotland to undergo a course devised by Andrew Bell. Mr Bell, once a chronic stammerer, claims to have taught himself a new speaking voice which ended his problem.

Once an architect, Mr Bell, aged 46, now works fulltime on his stammering cure at Kirkcaldy, in Fife. "From the age of four I had a stammer which got worse as I reached my teens," he says. "My inability to communicate often left me angry. A lot of money was spent on treatments, none of which worked. It seemed I had an affliction which nobody was able

Search for a freed speech

Will a sure-fire cure be found to end the misery of Britain's 500,000 stammerers?

to do anything about, and it would be with me for life."

By the time Mr Bell had reached his mid-20s, he had had enough. He was determined stammering was not going to control his life and began to investigate his problem. Because stammering is a fragmented way of speaking, he reasoned that if he broke his speech down to basics and gradually rebuilt it, using techniques he has now refined over many years, then fluency would follow.

Although it took prolonged and painstaking efforts, he says that by 1967 he was triumphant. After a two-year battle, he had beaten his stammer. "I discovered that if you are speaking fluently you cannot be stammering at the same time. It is a bit like learning to drive. After a while, you are automatically doing the things necessary to keep you going."

In 1969, having examined in detail how he had taught himself to become fluent, Mr Bell quit architecture to give his first course for stammerers. He believes stammering is caused by anxiety stemming from an emotional upset when the sufferer was young. This may inhibit self-expression, and the anxiety produces an unnecessary urge to rush speech,

resulting in inevitable tripping over words which develops into a stammer.

"You have to have had a stammer and then gained fluency before you have a total understanding of how to overcome stammering. Most speech therapists do not have this understanding of the problem," Mr Bell says.

He holds only four or five therapy courses a year, with about 16 people on each course. "We are cut off from the happenings of the world for a week," he says. "To call it intensive is putting it mildly. It is total immersion in new speech, and isolation is crucial to the success of the course."

He describes his cure as a "joyous journey to fluent speech, giving people confidence to talk fluently via a complex range of sound and speech exercises".

Although the course costs £400 per person, plus hotel expenses, Mr Bell takes no fee if on the final day the individual is not speaking fluently.

CONVENTIONAL treatment has a high success rate, says Louise Wright, a speech therapist specializing in stammering, who is a member of the College of Speech Therapists. "Lots of adults may remember bad or failed treatment from 20 or more years ago because therapy was then in its infancy," she says. "Now we have an approach which is much more successful."

There is no single approach to curing a stammer, but approved techniques include modifying the rate and style of speech delivery.

Although most stammerers are helped by Mr Bell's treatment, few could claim to have been cured. Mr Rhodes says. Many join a support group. "You have to work to stay fluent by practising speaking exercises regularly — every day if you can manage it," Mr Rhodes says.

"I also go to a public speaker's club, and it gives me immense satisfaction to be able to speak as well, or better, than people who have been fluent all their lives."

Bernard Silk

Hay fever takes the sunshine out of the lives of millions, Heather Kirby reports

If you do not cut the grass, the pollen will get you. But if you do, and the newly mown lawn makes you sneeze, that is because you are allergic to grass sap. You could take a holiday for the next six weeks, moving to the west coast because the prevailing westerly winds coming off the Atlantic will not be carrying the dreaded stuff. Or you could pray for rain — unless, that is, you are one of those people whose hay fever is brought on by a thunderstorm.

Unless we get a change in the weather, this could be a vintage year for hay fever sufferers: a mild, dry winter followed by an exceptionally sunny spring with plenty of wind to blow the pollen around. The first pollen count of 1990, taken on Tuesday, two weeks earlier than last year because of the warm April, was four, which is low. Last year the first day's figure, taken on June 1, was two, but it rose to a high of 200 by June 10 and remained high until June 17. This is the month when it usually reaches its peak, petering out by mid-July.

The most common symptoms, which for many sufferers have already started, are itchy, swollen eyes, a runny nose, sneezing, coughing, breathlessness and wheezing, lethargy and fatigue. And if you are suffering an allergic reaction to pollen, you may also find yourself sneezing at all sorts of other things, from strawberries to your dog.

The peak age for contracting hay fever is 20, although many children suffer. Some people become sensitive to more things as they grow older, and some older people find hay fever fades away, only to be replaced by migraine, according to Dr Jonathan Maberly, a consultant physician at the Airedale General Hospital, Keighley, West Yorkshire. "Hay fever is very variable," Dr Maberly, a specialist in chest complaints and allergies, says. "Some people get symptoms the moment they are exposed to pollen, and some can get them four to eight hours later. Some suffer for a short period and are all right in between, and other reactions can last for up to 24 hours."

"Last year, a lot of people who had never had hay fever started to get it because it was such a hot summer with very high pollen counts. They joined the 15 to 20 per cent of the population who suffer from some kind of allergy."

"It is a branch of medicine which is largely ignored in this country; we regard allergies as unimportant, with only a handful of specialists trying to treat them, whereas in America and on the Continent they take them very seriously."

Treatment for hay fever, depending on what type it is and how severe the attack is, ranges from antihistamine tablets and eye drops to nose or chest inhalers and steroids, taken either by mouth or injection. Past experience of drowsiness induced by drugs, which for many people often made the cure worse than the disease, should not deter sufferers from trying them again. Dr Robert Wilson, a special-



ist in respiratory disorders at the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital, said: "New and effective anti-histamines are being used now which don't cause sleepiness and which allow people to drive, although even with the new ones professional drivers and pilots particularly have to try them out first because some individuals may still be affected."

"If all else fails, steroids can be prescribed. Most doctors do not recommend injections which last four to six weeks, because the side-effects can include gastric and indigestion problems. They can make an ulcer bleed, keep you awake or make you put on weight."

Susceptibility to hay fever can be hereditary. If both your parents suffer from it you are twice as likely to develop it, but even if there is no history of allergies in the family it is still possible to develop an allergic

reaction to wind-blown pollen, dust, food or chemical pollution, and Dr Maberly believes 10 per cent of sufferers fall into this category. "I think nutrition plays a big part in allergy, and the reason more people are becoming sensitive to pollen is that our modern diet does not have adequate amounts of minerals that help to protect us."

"I also blame the fact that many babies are not breast-fed during their first six months of life. People think because they eat vegetables, meat and fruit they are all right. But that is not true."

Dr Maberly believes that breast-feeding works against the onset of allergy, and that the early introduction of cow's milk, itself a highly allergenic food, into a baby's diet can be responsible for later problems. Chemical pollution, whether atmospheric or food based, is also

FIGHTING BACK

- There is no effective way of avoiding hay fever altogether, but reasonable precautions, such as not going for drives in open-topped cars, not keeping doors and windows open and avoiding picnics, can be taken. Air conditioning may also help.
- Running noses, itching, sneezing and allergic rashes can be alleviated by antihistamines.
- Antihistamines block the effects of substances to which the body is sensitive. They can be bought over the counter at chemists, or prescribed by doctors.
- The important thing is to take them before symptoms set in, first thing in the morning before you are exposed to pollen.
- Antihistamines do not help asthma, which can be treated with inhaled steroids such as Becotide.
- Most doctors do not recommend anti-hay fever injections, which last four to six weeks, because of the side-effects.
- Some doctors believe that in the hay fever season you are already stocked up with histamine, so avoiding foods containing histamine can alleviate symptoms; others are unconvinced. However, it is generally agreed that if you have food allergies, such as grain, your hay fever symptoms should get better if you stop eating wheat or corn products during the season. If you are prone to food allergies it may be worth avoiding the following foods:

- Red wine; strawberries; shellfish; mackerel; sauerkraut; pepperoni; sausage; cheese; salami; tuna; eggs; wheat; cereal; nuts; alcohol; yeast products; dyes and colourings; aspirin

widely believed to be responsible for the increase in the incidence of hay fever, which is a relatively new complaint. The first recorded case was in 1819.

Because the height of the hay fever season coincides with summer exams, it causes extra problems for schoolchildren. Dr Wilson says: "Hay fever does not have a direct mental effect, but because it causes tiredness, lethargy and impairs concentration the mental processes of hay fever sufferers are not as good as they should be."

"Exam boards tend to be sympathetic and give the benefit of the doubt in cases where the mark is marginal, but fortunately exams seem to be in early June now, before the worst of the hay fever season. In Shropshire we find admissions of children with asthma reach a peak in late June and July."

Ironically, the estimated 100,000 plane trees, which were planted nearly 150 years ago in London to counteract the effects of pollution are a major cause of hay fever in the capital. Flowers and fruit-bearing trees which are pollinated by insects are less trouble but hazel, alder and chestnut trees can all contribute.

And in Derby at the moment, where they have not yet started to count grass pollen — because the further north you go the later the grass pollen starts to make itself felt — they are finding that oak spores are giving patients problems.

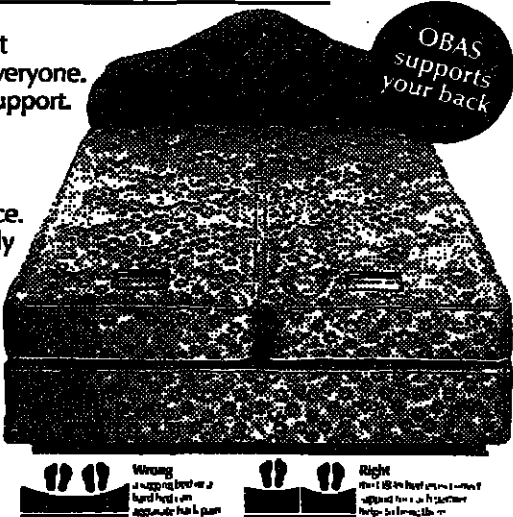
"We start monitoring in February," says Julie Corden, of the Midlands Asthma and Allergy Research Association. "We place a glass slide covered with a fine film of Vaseline on a spore trap, which stands on a tripod, and then count the pollen itself at the end of each day or each week."

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PREVIEW

TODAY Opera, Dance & Books

● FRIDAY Classical Music ● MONDAY Art & Auctions ● TUESDAY Theatre & Cabaret ● WEDNESDAY Rock, Jazz & World Music

The Times Preview features a different area of the arts each day Monday to Friday, as indicated above, including events in the following seven days. Plus the Cinema Guide

OPERA

Barry Millington

LONDON

IL TROVATORE (Verdi): Static staging by Piero Faggioni, partly redeemed by strong cast, including Vanessa Stebbins, Lefteris and Randova. Edward Downes conducts. Royal Opera House, Covent Garden, (01-262 0100), Sat, Wed, 7.30pm, £2.50-£28.

THE MARRIAGE OF FIGARO (Mozart): Lively revival by Rebecca Mettler of original production by Jonathan Miller. Gregory Yonick and Lesley Garrett are the Court's resourceful valet and his fiancée. English National Opera, Coliseum, St Martin's Lane, WC2 (01-836 3161), tonight, Mon, Wed, 7pm, £2-£33.

CLARISSA: Robin Holloway's long-awaited opera to his own libretto based on Richardson's novel. Oliver Knussen conducts. David Pountney directs. ENO (see above), tomorrow, Tues, 7.30pm, £2-£18.

COMBATTIMENTO DI TANCREDI E CLORINDA: Richard Jones's production of Monteverdi's dramatic cantata is part of the day-long series of events on the South Bank to raise money for Crusaid. Stephen Oliver's Tables Meet will give a new meaning to the term "culinary opera" by being performed in the Festival Hall restaurant.

South Bank Centre, SE1 (01-928 8800), Sun, midday-midnight, £10 upwards (some events free).

MERRY WIDOW/LUCIA DI LAMMERMOOR: Opera 80 and their nationwide tour with a short run in the capital. Sadler's Wells, Rosemary Avenue, EC1 (01-278 9515), *Lucia* (Widow), Wed (Lucia), 7.30pm, £4-£16.

OUTSIDE LONDON

COSI' FAN TUTTE (Mozart): Strongly cast new production by Jürgen Gosch, with Jane Eaglen and Thomas Rensch (tonight). *Madam Butterfly* (Puccini): Janice Adams and Arthur Davies take the leads in Nurell/Puccini's attractive production (Wed). Scottish Opera, Theatre Royal, Glasgow, Hope Street (041 331 1234), 7.15pm, £5-£25.50.

LA SERVANT PADRONA (Pergolesi): Attractive triple bill (two short comic operas also by Didi) from Opera Resto'd, all in period style. Village Hall, Hampstead Norris (0835 49819), tonight, 7.30pm, £7.50.

THE BARBER OF SEVILLE (Rossini): Peter Savidge plays the barber whose Spanish practices enable his master (Neil Archer) to win the object of his fancy (Kate McCann). Welsh National Opera, New Theatre, Cardiff (0222 38444), tomorrow, 7.15pm, £7.50-£30.

L'HEURE ESPAGNOLE/GIANI SCHICCHI: David Lloyd-Jones conducts the Ravel/Puccini double bill, with Andrew Shore outstanding in the latter (tomorrow). *Orpheus and Eurydice* (Gluck): Sally Burgess and Jane Leslie MacKenzie take the title roles, but the strongest recommendation is for Clive Timms's conducting (Sat).

Opera North, New Theatre Royal, Hull (0482 26555), 7.15pm, £4-£21.

TORNARCA: John Metcalf's new opera sets the spiritual animal culture of the fruit against the rigid social conventions of Victorian Britain. New Theatre, Cardiff (0222 38444), Sat, 7.15pm, £7.50-£30.

THE MAGIC FLUTE: Glyndebourne's appetite for innovation was surely tested by this first Mozart production in this country from America's enfant terrible, Peter Sellars.

Moving borders

DANIEL FAORO



British: Station House Opera perform "Cuckoo" (Saturday)

For its second appearance, Edge 90, "Britain's international biennial of innovative visual arts", moves from London to Newcastle — and the wonderful spaces the town has to offer this type of work. Edge 90 promotes the kind of work which has numerous floating phrases attached to it, irregularly referred to as "performance art", "installation", "time-based art", or "live art". So what do these differing terms represent? Taken quite literally they mean what they say and draw on any artform, deploying it as necessary. The emotions they play on are numerous. What they more generally have in common is clearly expressed in the subtitle to the festival — "art and life in the Nineties". The artists involved are the philosophers of the visual arts world: the social workers, the questioners, the contemplators, the politicians, the dissenters. They challenge us to reassess our notion of art and its relation to our lives. Richard Wilson, Edge 90's official British artist, surrealizes a room by placing a balcony bursting up through the floor and projecting out of the window. Martin Spanjaard (Dutch) with changing moods and personality. The festival includes installations, exhibitions and nightly performances by 25 artists from across the world. There is also a two-day conference and a videotape. Various artists will show work at a later date in Glasgow, London and Rotterdam. For full details, phone 091 232 0862. *Ghislaine Boddington*

Glyndebourne, Lewes, East Sussex (01273 541111), Mon, Wed, 5.25pm, £30-£75.

CAV AND PAG: *Macagnoli* (Lecocq): The opera world's most famous marriage of convenience is celebrated by Kentish Opera. Churchill Theatre, High Street, Bromley (081 480 8877), Tues, Wed, 7.30pm, £5-£11.50.

PAT GRANEY: American West Coast dancer with her company, reputedly full of excitement and humour. The Place, Duke's Road, London WC1 (01-387 0031), Fri, Sat, 8pm, £5.

JEWELS: Suraya Hail in a programme of Egyptian dances and music. Grand Theatre, Leeds (0532 459351), Sat, 7.30pm, £4-£28.

CURRULAO: Ashley Page's lively Latin American work for Rambert Dance Company, with works by Cunningham, Trisha Brown and Gary Lambert. Trisha Brown and Gary Lambert. Trisha Brown, Brighton (0273 28488), Mon-Wed, 7.30pm, £4-£9.50.

PERFORMANCE ART: Ghislaine Boddington

ZUNI COSAQUEDRON: Deep Structure of Chinese Culture. A promised challenging and topical performance from this Hong Kong company. Bloomsbury Theatre, 15 Gordon Street, London WC1 (01-387 9829), tonight until Sat, 8pm, £24.

PRETTY UGLY: Premiere by Scottish Ballet of work by Amanda Miller from the Frankfurt Ballet, with new works also by Michel Rahn and Massimo Monaco.

The Tramway, Glasgow (041 227 5511), tonight-Sat, 7.30pm, mat Sat, 2.30pm, £5.

THE DREAM: Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet, in Ashton's popular production, with *Pamir and Flowers of the Forest*. Marlowe, Canterbury (0227 767246), tomorrow, Sat, 7.30pm, mat Sat, 2.30pm, £7-£18.

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FORCED ENTERTAINMENT: Some *Confessions in The Law About Love*. With a cynical but clever look at the illusions of life, this Sheffield-based cooperative re-attack life in the cities in their original if not slightly cloying style. The Green Room, 54-56 Whitworth Street, West Manchester (061 236 1677), tonight, Fri, 8pm, £4.30 (£2.80).

JACOB MARLEY AND STEPHEN TAYLOR-WOODROW: *The Second Sitting*. A disappointingly tacky evening, pretentious, sexist and clearly over-hyped. ICA, The Mall, London SW1 (071-930 3647), tonight until Sat, 8pm, £5 (£5), please sit day membership.

MAYFEST AT THE THIRD EYE CENTRE: An excellent week for the near to Glasgow: Victoria Worsley with *Make Me A Statue* (tonight, Fri 7.30pm). Double bill from Americans Nancy Reilly and John O'Keefe (Fri, Sat, 9.30pm). Fred Mottram "on biology" (Sun, 5.30pm). And The V-Girls (USA) with their satirical breakdowns of works of art and literature (Wed, Thurs, 9.30pm). Third Eye Centre, 346-354 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow (041 332 0522). Tickets £5-£12.

GRAEME MILLER: *A Girl Skipping*. A kaleidoscope of physical theatre and images woven into an intricate game where the world of adult and child leads into each other. Towngate Theatre, Basildon (0268 532 632), Sat, 7.30pm, £4 (£2.50).

JOHN O'KEEFE: *Shimmer*. As part of the ICA's season of new performers from the US, this writer/performer uses his secret childhood language "shimmer" as a means of contemporary storytelling. ICA, The Mall, London SW1 (071-930 3647), Mon until Thurs, 8pm, Fri and Sat 9.30pm, £5 (£5) and £1 day membership.

INSTALLATIONS: A selection of "exhibitions" by perceptive visual artists using installation as a means of encouraging new reactions and awareness from their viewers. Fran Costello (Lewisham), Andrew Sablin (Chesham), Kerry Trengrove (Showroom), Bruce McLean (Amfins), Christian Boltanski (Whitechapel), Greenwich Citizens Gallery, 151 Powys Street, London SE18 (081-316 2752), until May 24. Cheshamale Gallery, 64-64 Chesham Road, London E3 (081-981 451), until May 27. The Showroom, 44 Bonner Road, London, E2 (081-980 6636), until June 3. Arncliffe Gallery, Narrow Quay, Bristol (0272 298191), until May 28. Whitechapel Art Gallery, Whitechapel High Street, London E1 (071-377 0107), until June 3.

READINGS: *Cris Cheek*

JEAN BINTA BREEZE: Top light poet whose lyrics are less successful, being too easy on stereotype and sentiment. Go and hear her though. "Riddym Riddym" is a fine work. Beeston Library, Foster Avenue, Beeston, Nottinghamshire (0602 255168), tonight, 7.30pm, £2.50 (£1.50).

JEROME ROTHENBERG: This week's most extraordinary reading from the one of the greatest anthologists of world poetics (*Shaking the Pumpkin*, *Technicians of the Sacred*, *Revolution of the Word* and his latest collection *Khurba*, a major body of work.) Sub-Volante, Duke of Cumberland, Albany Street, NW1 (01-340 6224), tomorrow, 8pm, £2.50 (£1.50).

GRACE NICHOLS, DEBJANI CHATTERJEE, AMRILY JOHNSON AND SUANDY: Four strong women poets and performers constitute a celebratory and weighty line-up. Guyanese Nichols wrote the influential *The Fat Black Woman's Poems*. Chatterjee has a new collection *Barbed Lines* this year. Green Room, Whitworth Street West, Manchester (061 236 1677), Sat, 8pm, £3.30 (£2.80).

ERIC MOTTRAM: Prolific, highly influential poet and editor who has successfully helped to prize open the closing English 20th-century poetic tradition and place contemporary British writing at the cutting edge of world developments as his recent *Peace Projects* and *Sirel Novels* amply testify. Torriano Meeting House, 59 Tomaro Avenue, London NW5 (01-257 2731), Sun, 7.30pm, free.

INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ARTS: Bohumil Hrabal and Jim Kolar: Author of *Closely Observed Trains* and the brilliant text collage artist currently exhibiting in the ICA Galleries, talk to Julian Barnes (novelist) and Pavel Buchler (artist and curator) in the East European forum series (tonight). Roy Heath and Lisa St Aubin De Teram: Two authors, both working with autobiographical material, talk with Edward Blahen, who describes Heath as "simply one of the most astonishingly good novelists of our time" (Times). Eric Hobsbawm: Discusses his latest work under the title *Echoes of the Marketplace and Nationalism Since 1780* with Neal Ascherson (Wed).

ICA, The Mall, London, SW1 (071-930 3647), tonight, 7.30pm, £3. Tues, Wed, 1pm, £2, plus £1 membership.

IAN McEWAN: Love him or not, he's the people up and comes to his event with an uncompromising novel *The Innocent*, which is currently at the top of the best sellers. In conversation with Marjorie Gasterbury. Watershead Media Centre, 1 Canon's Road, Bristol (0272 276-441), Mon, 7.30pm, £3 (£2).

NINA CASSIAN: *Life Sentence*: Selected poems published earlier this year from this previously electric and now celebratory poem: *Romantic*, voice and composition. Voice Box, Royal Festival Hall, South Bank, London SE1 (01-328 3835), Tues, 7.30pm, £2.50 (£1.50).

Compiled by Karl Knight

Items for inclusion should be sent at least 10 days before publication to Preview, The Times, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN

BEST SELLING BOOKS

For the week ending May 12 1990

FICTION

1 The Innocent, Ian McEwan £12.95

2 Tiresias Revisited, John Mortimer £13.99

3 Lies of Silence, Brian Moore £12.99

4 Golden Fox, Wilbur Smith £12.99

5 A Sensible Life, Mary Wesley £12.95

NON-FICTION

1 Michael 1980: Britain £10.50

2 Michael 1980: France £10.50

3 My Traitor's Heart, Brian Moore £14.95

4 Winston and Clementine, Richard Hough £14.95

5 Tom Driberg: Indiscretions, Francis Wheen £18.00

PAPERBACKS

1 The Russia House, John Le Carré £4.50

2 Devices and Desires, P.D. James £6.99

3 The Negotiator, Frederick Forsyth £4.99

4 Ruling Passions, Susan Crossland £3.99

5 Ambition, John Burchill £3.99

6 The Fortune, Michael Korda £4.50

7 Jigsaw, Sybil Bedford £4.99

8 The Bridemaid, Ruth Rendell £3.50

9 Seed and Fiddle, Mary Wesley £3.99

10 The Joy Luck Club, Amy Tan £3.99

Source: Hachards, 187 Piccadilly, London W1

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's selection of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ♦) on release across the country.

NEW RELEASES

JOHNNY HANDSOME (15): Grains, on-screen actor's first from director Walter Hill, with Micky Rourke as a disguised criminal who plans a double-crossing of a police officer. With Ellen Barkin. Cannon (01-370 2636) Haymarket (01-539 1527) Oxford Street (01-370 3330).

LEVATHAN (18): Derivative, cliché-laden underwater thriller about scientists on the ocean floor under attack from genetic transformation. Peter Walker, Rialto Cinema.

A NIGHTMARE ON ELM STREET 5: THE DREAM CHILD (18): Robert Englund's vampire monster viciously preys on yet more children. Gross-out horror. Warner (01-370 3330).

POWOW HIGHWAY (15): Huge, over-the-top and sympathetic US independent film about two American Indians on a cross-country journey. A scrappy first feature for director Jonathan Wacks, with a Warner, Gary Farmer. Eureka (01-762 2525).

PRETTY WOMAN (15): Shamelessly out-of-control romantic comedy, given some modest charm and sparkle by Julia Roberts as a gawky prostitute who seduces the cruel of a rich businessman Richard Gere. Director: Gary Marshall. Cannon (01-370 2636) Haymarket (01-539 1527) Tottenham Court Road (01-370 3330) Notting Hill Corner (01-722 6155) Odessa (01-370 3330) Warner (01-370 3330) Leinster Square (01-530 6111) Swiss Cottage (01-722 5955) Screen on Baker Street (01-235 4225) Warner (01-438 0511) Whittakers (01-752 3333/3334).

SHE-DEVIL (18): Roseanne Barr as the first tramp who takes revenge when her husband takes up with Mary. Screenplay by screenwriter of *She-Devil* from director Susan Seidelman. Cannon (01-370 2636) Haymarket (01-539 1527) Tottenham Court Road (01-370 3330) Notting Hill Corner (01-722 6155) Odessa (01-370 3330) Warner (01-370 3330) Leinster Square (01-530 6111) Swiss Cottage (01-722 5955) Screen on Baker Street (01-235 4225) Warner (01-438 0511) Whittakers (01-752 3333/3334).

BORN ON THE FOURTH OF JULY (18): Dramatic anti-Vietnam epic from Oliver Stone, with Tom Cruise excellent as a young soldier who becomes a leader. Cannon (01-370 2636) Haymarket (01-539 1527) Tottenham Court Road (01-370 3330) Notting Hill Corner (01-722 6155) Odessa (01-370 3330) Warner (01-370 3330) Leinster Square (01-530 6111) Swiss Cottage (01-722 5955) Screen on Baker Street (01-235 4225) Warner (01-438 0511) Whittakers (01-752 3333/3334).

COLD FEET (15): Wayward comedy-drama about three petty criminals in Vietnam, co-written by novelist Tom Stoppard with Tom Wells, Keith Calder, and John Dahl. Directed by John Dahl. Cannon (01-370 2636) Haymarket (01-539 1527) Tottenham Court Road (01-370 3330) Notting Hill Corner (01-722 6155) Odessa (01-370 3330) Warner (01-370 3330) Leinster Square (01-530 6111) Swiss Cottage (01-722 5955) Screen on Baker Street (01-235 4225) Warner (01-438 0511) Whittakers (01-752 3333/3334).

DRIVING MISS DAISY (15): Sweet, touching film of Alfred Hitchcock's story about a retired Southern lady (Jessica Tandy) and her black chauffeur (Morgan Freeman). Directed by Bruce Beresford. Cannon (01-370 2636) Haymarket (01-539 1527) Tottenham Court Road (01-370 3330) Notting Hill Corner (01-722 6155) Odessa (01-370 3330) Warner (01-370 3330) Leinster Square (01-530 6111) Swiss Cottage (01-722 5955) Screen on Baker Street (01-235 4225) Warner (01-438 0511) Whittakers (01-752 3333/3334).

THE FABULOUS BAKER BOYS (15): Hilarious comedy about a family of bakers who are the only ones left in a town where everyone else has moved. Directed by John Dahl. Cannon (01-370 2636) Haymarket (01-539 1527) Tottenham Court Road (01-370 3330) Notting Hill Corner (01-722 6155) Odessa (01-370 3330) Warner (01-370 3330) Leinster Square (01-530 6111) Swiss Cottage (01-722 5955) Screen on Baker Street (01-235 4225) Warner (01-438 0511) Whittakers (01-752 3333/3334).

INTERNAL AFFAIRS (18): Richard Gere and Andy Garcia as Los Angeles cops who are the only ones left in a town where everyone else has moved. Directed by John Dahl. Cannon (01-370 2636) Haymarket (01-539 1527) Tottenham Court Road (01-370 3330) Notting Hill Corner (01-722 6155) Odessa (01-370 3330) Warner (01-370 3330) Leinster Square (01-530 6111) Swiss Cottage (01-722 5955) Screen on Baker Street (01-235 4225) Warner (01-438 0511) Whittakers (01-752 3333/3334).

THE HUNT FOR RED OCTOBER (18): Sean Connery as a Soviet submarine commander trying to defect. Ponderous pre-glance drama. Cannon (01-370 2636) Haymarket (01-539 1527) Tottenham Court Road (01-370 3330) Notting Hill Corner (01-722 6155) Odessa (01-370 3330) Warner (01-370 3330) Leinster Square (01-530 6111) Swiss Cottage (01-722 5955) Screen on Baker Street (01-235 4225) Warner (01-438 0511) Whittakers (01-752 3333/3334).

THE WAR OF THE ROSES (15): A perfect marriage of self-interest and violence. Directed by John Dahl. Cannon (01-370 2636) Haymarket (01-539 1527) Tottenham Court Road (01-370 3330) Notting Hill Corner (01-722 6155) Odessa (01-370 3330) Warner (01-370 3330) Leinster Square (01-530 6111) Swiss Cottage (01-722 5955) Screen on Baker Street (01-235 4225) Warner (01-438 0511) Whittakers (01-752 3333/3334).

UNCLE BUCK (12): Funny comedy with John Candy as a re-to-dell taking care of his brother's children. Cannon (01-370 2636) Haymarket (01-539 1527) Tottenham Court Road (01-370 3330) Notting Hill Corner (01-722 6155) Odessa (01-370 3330) Warner (01-370 3330) Leinster Square (01-530 6111) Swiss Cottage (01-722 5955) Screen on Baker Street (01-235 4225) Warner (01-438 0511) Whittakers (01-752 3333/3334).

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COMPILED BY PETER DEAR
AND MARIT HARGIE
CRITIC'S CHOICE PETER WAYMARK

the Supermarket (r) 4.00 The New

The Supermarket (v) 4.00 **The New York Bear Show** 4.10 **The All New Country Music** 4.15 **Tricky**

Crosby, Stills & Nash in performance as they bring their custom to the magic shop

Newsround 5.05 **Blue Peter** includes a preview of the Gateshead Garden Festival. (*Ceeffax*)

Neighbours (v) (*Ceeffax*) **Northern Ireland** 5.35 **Sportswide** 5.40 Inside **Ultralite**

Six O'Clock News with **Anne Ford** and **Chris Lowe**. Weather

Regional News Magazines

Fa Cup Enders. (*Ceeffax*)

EAST CUP Final Replay. Manchester United and Crystal Palace return to Wembley Stadium for their grueling, inconclusive encounter of last Saturday. NB: if extra time is required the programme times following are approximate


News with **Martin Lewis**. Regional news and weather

Clive James - Postcard from Miami.

❶ The portly Australian's overseas safari has tended to settle into a predictable formula but his plays on words are as brilliant as ever and there is much enjoyment to be had from new variations on the theme of the running joke this time, given that he is in Miami, is where's the vice? The place looks too clean and respectable to be hiding the drug barons and other vile elements encountered in television fiction. So it is to the section that James goes first, gatchersnatching the set of *Miami Vice* and wondering how he can turn himself into Don Johnson.

Johnson is on hand to tell him, the cue

practice and make a prat of himself on water skins. Unable to resist celebrities, he calls on Gloria Estefan, who takes no notice of his obsequious flattery and gives what on a Clive James show is the nearest thing to a straight interview. (Ceefed)



Clive James: On safari in Florida (11.30pm)

10.50 Question Time. Peter Sissons chairs the debate at the Oxford Union with panellists Paul Foot, *Daily Mirror* columnist; Dr Sheila Lawlor, Deputy Director of Studies, Centre for Policy Studies; Jack Straw MP; and the Home Secretary David Waddington

11.50 Cagney and Lacey. Slick American police series starring Sharon Gless and Tyne Daly. A straightforward investigation at a railway yard becomes a nightmare when the two cops are confronted by a psychopathic gunman (r). Northern Ireland v Uruguay

6.00 *TV-am* begins with *News and Good Morning Britain* presented by *Beatrice Holyer* and, from 7.00, by *Mike Morris* and *Maeve Egan*. With news at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00. After *Nine* includes *Claire Rayner's* problem postbag

9.25 *Cross Wits*. The quiz game for crossword enthusiasts, hosted by *Tom O'Connor* 9.55 *Thames News* and weather

10.00 *The Time ... The Place ...* *Anne Diamond* chairs the daily discussion programme

10.40 *This Morning*. *Magazine series* presented by *Judy Finnigan* and *Richard Atkinson*. Today's edition includes items on family health and consumer protection. With national and international news at 10.55 and regional news at 11.55 followed by national weather

12.10 *The Fiddlers (r)* 12.30 *Home and Away*. *Australian soap*

1.00 *News at One* with *Ann Suschek*. Weather 1.20 *Thames News* and weather

1.30 *Somebody's Children: The Circle Game*. A look at adopting from abroad through the experiences of those who have chosen to find children in *Third World* countries. Last in the *Series 2.00 A Country Practice*. Australian medical drama

2.30 *TV Weekly*. *Anne Diamond* takes a look behind the scenes of independent television

3.00 **Connections.** Word association game 3.25 **Themes News** and weather 3.30 **Sons and Daughters**
4.00 **Huxley Plot** (r) 4.15 **The Adventures of Teddy Ruxpin** (r) 4.40 **Enid Blyton's The Castle of Adventure**
5.10 **Blockbusters**
5.40 **News** with John Suchet. Weather 5.55 **Themes Help.** Jackie Sprockley with details of the National Foster Care Association
6.00 **Home and Away** (r)
6.30 **Themes News** and weather 7.00 **Clarendon**
7.30 **Sporting Triangles.** John Regia joins Andy Gray, Rory Underwood partners Jimmy Greaves and Emyln Hughes is teamed with Peter Scudemors in another edition of the sporting quiz.
The questionmaster is Andy Craig
8.00 **The Bill: The Night Watch.** When a woman accuses her ex-boyfriend of rape, WPC Martella is anxious to see justice done. (Oracle)
8.20 **This Weevil For the Sakes of the Children.** An investigation into the growing number of families now openly rebelling against multi-cultural education in Britain. A middle-class couple removed their daughter from her school complaining that she was learning about Moslem religious festivals but not the Lord's Prayer; parents in Manchester took their local education authority to court when they discovered their children could count to 10 in Punjabi but not in English; while in Middlesbrough a Moslem father took his sons away from a mainly white school because they were the only

7.00 **Channel Four News** with Jon Snow

Muslims there. Will this parents' right to choose lead to a large scale withdrawal from racially mixed schools and create a new generation of ghetto schools?

9.00 **A. Law.** Glibby legal drama from California. Kuzak represents a black professor accused of murdering his white female assistant, and Becker becomes involved in a messy divorce dispute. (Dracule)

10.00 **News at Ten** with Sandy Gell and Julia Somerville. Weather 10.30 **Thames** News and weather

10.35 **The City Programme.**

11.05 **OT.** Includes Joanna Lumley talking about her role in Harold Pinter's new play *Vanities* and music from Brand New Heavies. Followed by *Crimetoppers*

11.40 **Prisoner.** Get Black! H. Australian drama series with heavy plot lines in lightweight scenery

12.30am **Contacts.** Josephine Buchanan and Trevor Ward with the television version of the small ads for anyone desperately seeking someone else to inflict on them. Limited championship. Followed by *News headlines*

1.30 **Film: Police War** (1975) starring Claude Brasseur and Marlene Jobert. Brutal drama about corruption and violence in a French police force. Directed by Ren Poliss. Followed by *News headlines*

3.30 **Bedrock.** Hawkwind in concert

4.30 **America's Top Ten** (r)

5.00 **ITN Morning News** with Gillian Carter. Ends at 6.00

the safety of their multi-million pound

have failed are able to recover and be able to reconstruct their shattered lives.

6.45 Open University: Social Sciences – Sociology Ends at 7.10
8.00 News 8.15 Westminster
9.00 Daytime on Two begins with a programme on protecting the environment and includes at 10.00 The history of Lincoln Cathedral 10.40 Designers who create fashions for children and teenagers at 11.00 The life of a farm boy a century ago 12.03 Working in travel and tourism and at 1.40, *Musik Time*
1.00 News and weather followed by Watch (r) 2.15 History Man. In Victorian England, the town of Leicester in Essex had its own special solution to the problems of drunks on the streets (r) 2.20 The Kingdom of Fun. The story of Tyneside's Metro Centre (r). (Ceefax)
4.00 News and weather followed by Westminster Live. Including Prime Minister's Question Time 3.50 News, regional news and weather
5.00 River Journeys Germaine Greer takes a vintage paddle-boat and steams up the Rio Sao Francisco in Brazil (r). (Ceefax) 5.00 Sydney
11.00 Horizon: Legacy of a Volcano. (r). (Ceefax)
11.00 Film: Stagecoach (1939, b/w). – a classic John Ford western, starring John Wayne. On the run from the law, he joins a stagecoach carrying a colourful assortment of passengers, including Claire Trevor and Thomas Mitchell, through treacherous Indian country. (Ceefax)
11.35 Business Matters: Picking up the Pieces. Fiona Bruce reports on how powers of Israeli businesses which

have failed are able to recover and begin to reconstruct their shattered lives.

Wales: Gardening Together
Yes, Minister. Brilliant political comedy by Antony Jay and Jonathan Lynn (r). (Ceelees)

On the Line, Sue Mott and Ray Stubbs with a new series of investigations into the world of sport. Tonight's topics include contracts between television and football.

KYTV. The environment is the focus of fun for this week's edition of the way-out comedy series poking fun at satellite television

zozonian Indians under threat (9.30pm)
Under the Sun.
The anthropological series returns with the trilogy of films about Brazil, starting with tonight's study of the *Mehinaku* Indians of Amazonia. If last year's *Under the Sun* sometimes strayed from the definition of anthropology as commonly understood, then we are back in the

mainstream. The film falls into two parts. The first explores a peaceful culture which not only gives social cohesion within the Mehinaku but governs its relations with the other tribes living along the banks of the River Xingú. Among their elaborate rituals, of which the most spectacular is a mock battle in full war paint, the only concession to the 20th century is the bicycle. But the second part of the film shows the Mehinaku under threat, from the white man who may take their land and, more insidiously, the game of football which has caught on rapidly since the 1970s and is threatening to replace the old tribal customs. (Ceslex) 10.20 10x10.

● A new series of short pieces by first time directors differs from the previous two in that outdoor filming has been replaced by studio-shot video and the performers have all been recruited from the production staff of the BBC. Their former form is anything to go by, we may soon be recognizing their names on the credits of shows such as *Film 90*, *Nature* and *Brookside*. Tonight's offering, *Look to the Moon*, was made by art director at Scotland, Bill Kirkwood, and is a dance-drama set in a Glasgow pub at closing time. Left in an otherwise deserted bar, a drunk finds his mind veering between reality and fantasy and feeding an obsession with the moon. Ten minutes is not much time to invent, but Kirkwood fills it inventively. (Ceslex) 10.30 Newsnight.

11.15 *The Late Show*, Arts and media magazine 11.55 *Weather*

12.00 *Open University: Weekend*

12.05 *Open University: Health and Disease* - Ulf Behrns directs at 12.35


- 6.00 **The Art of Landscape** Part of the series which has been set to a wide range of instrumental music
- 6.30 **The Channel Four Daily**
- 9.25 **Schools**
- 12.00 **The Parliament Programme.** Business of the moment from both Houses of Parliament, presented by Sue Cameron
- 12.30 **Business Daily.** Financial and business news service introduced by Susannah Simons
- 1.00 **Sesame Street.** Pre-school learning series
- 2.00 **A Full Life.** Jonathan Miller reflects on his many different careers in conversation with Jill Cochrane (f)
- 2.30 **Channel Four Racing** from York. Though Scott introduces live coverage of the Champagne Laneon Ladies International Challenge (2-35); the Norwest Hols Trophy (3-10); the Kooker Yorkshire Cup (3-40); and the Duke of York Stakes (4-10). The race commentator is Graham Goode
- 4.30 **Filipino to the Limelight.** Stewart presides over the fast moving general knowledge quiz
- 5.00 **Garibaldi the General.** Episode four of the eight-part romanticized account of the 19th-century general who conquered Sicily and Naples for the emerging Kingdom of Italy with Franco Nero in the title role
- 6.00 **Things to Come.** Malcolm Bennett and Penny Southgate look into the future in the weekly science programme with a refreshing lack of the pompous
- 6.30 **Kate to Alice.** Alice's ex-husband splits up with his girlfriend. Alice comes to the rescue with food, understanding, and maybe a little more. Susan Saint James and Jane Carr as the co-habiting single parents living in a flat

6.00 Greek Fire. What is real? Plato's eternal question is considered through Jesus' parable of the blind men and Greg Heist, who played Gary in *EastEnders*.

8.30 My Two Dads: Soho's by You. New American comedians, about two old college buddies who are less than 10-year-old girl in a room, are shared by a 10-year-old boy, but man could be her father. Thus begin the trials and tribulations of a kick-started parenthood for the pair. Staci Keanan, Paul Reiser and Greg Evigan play the bulk of the comedy, but the moving in to their new apartment. A hit in the United States, although its theme of more 30-plus problems in a budding society may prove a little too sickly for British tastes.

9.00 Film on Four: Shining Stars (1990)
A collaboration between director Chris Bernard (his first film since *Letter From Breznev*) and writer Barry Hines (of *Kes*), this is a curious tale of a black football star being kidnapped by these youngers who have been far less successful in life and resent his Porsche, his sharp suits and his huge pay cheques. The film demands a modicum of audience sympathy for the kidnappers, because if there is none it is difficult to sustain a moral centre.

Shining Stars is a comedy about shooting at the wrong target. The footballer's wealth is due to an accident of talent. He is to be cashed over the head and held prisoner just because other young men of similar upbringing are struggling on the cusp? If there are no other people who manipulate footballers, represented by the club chairman who is selling our man to a German club to ease his own money troubles. The Germans also come out of it badly, but the movie is not a comedy.



the circumstances, by Gary McDonald.
(Oracle)

Football crazies: kidnap at gunpoint (\$5.00pm)

10.40 La Loca. Award winning poet Pamela Kori, known as *La Loca*, or the crazy woman, gives a recital of her work *La Mayan*, an autobiographical account of her rebellious youth in Los Angeles

11.40 Film: To Our Loves (1983) starring Sandrine Bonnaire. An award-winning study of adolescence and family relationships about a teenager whose growing promiscuity estranges her from her brother and mother. With Evelyn Ker and Dominique Besnehard. Directed by Maurice Pialat. In French with English subtitles. Ends at 1.30pm

RADIO 3

<p>Stereo and MW 10:00am Jacki Brambles 5:00am 11:00am 5.30 Stereo News 12.50 12:00pm Newsweek 12.45 Gary Davies 5:00 1:00pm Weir Wright in the Afternoon 5:30 News 2:00pm 6.00 Matt Gossler 7:00 Top of the Pops with Steve Wright 7:30 Philipe Scheldel 8:00pm John Peel 10.00 Nicky Campbell 10:20-11:00am Bob Harris</p>	<p>6.35am QP 7.05am Westm 7.55am Muzak 8:00am (Over) 8:05am Mozart 8:30am Top of the Pops 8:45am Doug 9:00am News 9:30am News 9:35am Morning News 10:00am QP 10:05am QP 10:10am QP 10:15am QP 10:20am QP 10:25am QP 10:30am QP 10:35am QP 10:40am QP 10:45am QP 10:50am QP 10:55am QP 11:00am QP 11:05am QP 11:10am QP 11:15am QP 11:20am QP 11:25am QP 11:30am QP 11:35am QP 11:40am QP 11:45am QP 11:50am QP 11:55am QP 12:00pm QP 12:05pm QP 12:10pm QP 12:15pm QP 12:20pm QP 12:25pm QP 12:30pm QP 12:35pm QP 12:40pm QP 12:45pm QP 12:50pm QP 12:55pm QP 1:00pm QP 1:05pm QP 1:10pm QP 1:15pm QP 1:20pm QP 1:25pm QP 1:30pm QP 1:35pm QP 1:40pm QP 1:45pm QP 1:50pm QP 1:55pm QP 2:00pm QP 2:05pm QP 2:10pm QP 2:15pm QP 2:20pm QP 2:25pm QP 2:30pm QP 2:35pm QP 2:40pm QP 2:45pm QP 2:50pm QP 2:55pm QP 3:00pm QP 3:05pm QP 3:10pm QP 3:15pm QP 3:20pm QP 3:25pm QP 3:30pm QP 3:35pm QP 3:40pm QP 3:45pm QP 3:50pm QP 3:55pm QP 4:00pm QP 4:05pm QP 4:10pm QP 4:15pm QP 4:20pm QP 4:25pm QP 4:30pm QP 4:35pm QP 4:40pm QP 4:45pm QP 4:50pm QP 4:55pm QP 5:00pm QP 5:05pm QP 5:10pm QP 5:15pm QP 5:20pm QP 5:25pm QP 5:30pm QP 5:35pm QP 5:40pm QP 5:45pm QP 5:50pm QP 5:55pm QP 6:00pm QP 6:05pm QP 6:10pm QP 6:15pm QP 6:20pm QP 6:25pm QP 6:30pm QP 6:35pm QP 6:40pm QP 6:45pm QP 6:50pm QP 6:55pm QP 7:00pm QP 7:05pm QP 7:10pm QP 7:15pm QP 7:20pm QP 7:25pm QP 7:30pm QP 7:35pm QP 7:40pm QP 7:45pm QP 7:50pm QP 7:55pm QP 8:00pm QP 8:05pm QP 8:10pm QP 8:15pm QP 8:20pm QP 8:25pm QP 8:30pm QP 8:35pm QP 8:40pm QP 8:45pm QP 8:50pm QP 8:55pm QP 9:00pm QP 9:05pm QP 9:10pm QP 9:15pm QP 9:20pm QP 9:25pm QP 9:30pm QP 9:35pm QP 9:40pm QP 9:45pm QP 9:50pm QP 9:55pm QP 10:00pm QP 10:05pm QP 10:10pm QP 10:15pm QP 10:20pm QP 10:25pm QP 10:30pm QP 10:35pm QP 10:40pm QP 10:45pm QP 10:50pm QP 10:55pm QP 11:00pm QP 11:05pm QP 11:10pm QP 11:15pm QP 11:20pm QP 11:25pm QP 11:30pm QP 11:35pm QP 11:40pm QP 11:45pm QP 11:50pm QP 11:55pm QP 12:00pm QP 12:05pm QP 12:10pm QP 12:15pm QP 12:20pm QP 12:25pm QP 12:30pm QP 12:35pm QP 12:40pm QP 12:45pm QP 12:50pm QP 12:55pm QP 1:00pm QP 1:05pm QP 1:10pm QP 1:15pm QP 1:20pm QP 1:25pm QP 1:30pm QP 1:35pm QP 1:40pm QP 1:45pm QP 1:50pm QP 1:55pm QP 2:00pm QP 2:05pm QP 2:10pm QP 2:15pm QP 2:20pm QP 2:25pm QP 2:30pm QP 2:35pm QP 2:40pm QP 2:45pm QP 2:50pm QP 2:55pm QP 3:00pm QP 3:05pm QP 3:10pm QP 3:15pm QP 3:20pm QP 3:25pm QP 3:30pm QP 3:35pm QP 3:40pm QP 3:45pm QP 3:50pm QP 3:55pm QP 4:00pm QP 4:05pm QP 4:10pm QP 4:15pm QP 4:20pm QP 4:25pm QP 4:30pm QP 4:35pm QP 4:40pm QP 4:45pm QP 4:50pm QP 4:55pm QP 5:00pm QP 5:05pm QP 5:10pm QP 5:15pm QP 5:20pm QP 5:25pm QP 5:30pm QP 5:35pm QP 5:40pm QP 5:45pm QP 5:50pm QP 5:55pm QP 6:00pm QP 6:05pm Q</p>
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5.55am Shipping Forecast 6.00
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6.30 7.00, 8.00, 8.30
News 6.55, 7.55 Weather 8.55
Yesterday in Parliament 8.57
Weather
9.00 News
9.05 Facts and Fads (new series)
John Walshe investigates
allegations of injustice and the
abuse of authority (s)
9.30 How Can You? (new
series) Barry Norman
examines how far modern
values challenge religious
beliefs and how much
freedom are people
allowed before the blasphemy
line is crossed. Guests
include Martin Scorsese,
Arnold Wesker, Jay Weldon,
Mary Whitehouse, John

4.00 News
4.05 Rockshelf with Nigel Forde
4.35 Radioscape: Live broadcast from the Brighton Festival (a)
5.00 PM 5.50 Shipping Forecast
5.15 The Weather
6.00 Six O'Clock News: Financial Report
6.30 At Home with the Harveys (new series)
 Return of the comedy show featuring Kit Halloway, Jeremy Harvey, Paul S Davies and Caroline Leachy (a) (7)
7.00 The 7.00 News
7.20 Public Affairs: The Oz Trial
 Innocents Defied? David Wheeler looks back at the young defendants in the British history. The three editors of the underground magazine *Oz* were accused of sedition on an on and on and compelling the young. But the occasion turned into a

ANGLIA
 As London News 2.00-2.30
7.00 About A
 Glee 12.05-12.30
 Power 4.40-5.00

BORDER
 As London News 2.00-2.30
4.00 The 4.00 News
 4.30-5.00
7.00 Panorama
 11.05 The Shadow
 12.05-12.30
 2.25 Video VJ
 3.25 Sparrows
 4.50-5.00 Job

CENTRAL
 As London News 2.00-2.30
7.00 Central
 11.05 Let Night
 12.05-12.30
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12.00 Haver South
Home and Awwy 6.00
7.00 Blackthorn 10.35
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Top Ten 3.30 Sportscenter 4.30
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10.45 An Act of Worship (s)
11.00 News; Citizens
11.25 Conversation Piece, Sue
Miles/Conger meets Roger
Bannister, Master of
Pembroke, Oxford
11.50 First Person, David Morris
relates his career switch from
lawyer to shepherd 12.00
News; You and Yours with
John Wane
12.25 King Street Junction (s) (f)
12.50 Weather
1.00 The World at One
1.40 The Archers 1.55 Shipping
Forecast
2.00 News; Women's Hour: Jenni
Murray talks to Margaret
Thatcher about women's
issues; a feature on Agatha
Christie; an interview with
Cathy Duggan, an Aids
nursing counsellor for children;
and a live interview with Juliet
Stevenson, Serial: *The Other
Occupant* (8)
3.00 News; A Room Full of Mirrors.
Play by award-winning
playwright, Patrick Marber.
The third Armada is on its way
to an undefeated England.
Queen Elizabeth I disguises
herself as an ordinary person
to mix with her people in
London. An encounter with a
wild leads to a chance to
save her country. Starring: Siân
Phillips, Diana Edds, William
Simons and Elizabeth Proud
(s)

FREQUENCIES: Radio 1: 1053k
(London area FM-104.8), Radio 2: 86
Radio 3: 12150k/27 24fm; Radio 4:
Jazz FM 102.2 LBC: 1152k/27; 261m;
65.8 GMR: 1453k/27; 261m; FM 94.9; 261m

9.00 [Analysis] David Walker investigates who benefits from the new tax rules put money into British companies.

9.45 Does He Take Sugar? Travelers special looking at the facilities on board the cruise ship at Heathrow's Terminal Two.

9.15 Kaleidoscope: Michael Goldfarb reviews *Varsity* at the Lyric Theatre; Nigel Anderson's *4.48 the Journey* at the Film Festival; and Peter King talks about Travelling Opera's new Resurrection (a).

9.45 The National World Tonight 9.55 Weather

10.00 The World Tonight (a)

10.45 A Book At Bedtime: Catch 22

11.00 Lonelyheart 4122 (new series): Dramatization of the *Flash Gordon* Chronicles, a series of detective novels by Colin Watson (1) (a)

11.30 Today in Parliament

12.00-12.30am News, Inc1 12.20

12.30-12.33 Shipping Forecast

12.35 **on LW except:**

1.05am-1.45 For Schools (a) 11.00-12.00 For Schools (a) 1.55pm

1.55pm-2.00 For Schools (a) 2.05-3.00 For Schools 3.50-3.55 PM (cont) 11.30-12.00 For Schools (a)

2.00-2.15 **on LW except:**

11.15 Democracy in Theory and Practice 12.30-1.10am Night school

2.25am-10.09am b/27sm/PM-FV 6.59.8b
b/2433m/30.04b/2733sm/PM-89.30.2
b/4: 19.84b/7.615sm/PM-82.42+9.6.
9.73c. Capital: 15.49sm/19.4m/PM
Service: MW 6.48b/24.63m.

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Sept. 1:20pm-1:30 Geneade
Hollywood Sports 3:30-
4:00 Geneade
Hard Cash 10:35 Families
12:00 Sledge Hammer!
News 2:25 Video
Men's Top Ten 3:30 Sports-
Invisible Men 4:50-5:00

Sept. 1:20pm-1:30 HTV
The Young Doctors 5:10-
5:45 6:00 HTV News 8:30-
10:35 The West This
Week Outlook 11:30 ABC
Steven Seagal 6:30 Kick
Vide 3:30 Malticos 4:20
T 4:40-5:00 Jobbinder.

Sept. 6:00pm-6:30 Wales
Wales & Westminster 10:35
T 11:05-11:35 Sporting

Sept. 1:20pm-1:30 TSW
Come and Away 5:10-5:40
6:00 TSW Today 6:30-
10:35 Business South
and the Best 12:10
Master of Guinness Records
October 2:30 Video View
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to Men 4:45-5:00 TSW

1:20pm-1:30 TVS News
Young Doctors 5:10-5:40
Come to Coast 6:30-
6:40 Coast South 11:10
H 12:10am Whitehead
Race 12:20 Joke and the
I Married a Dead Man
5:15 Jack Thompson Down

dignity

only costs £2 a week
for this grandmother

In developing countries, old age is an anxious time for grandparents who are too frail to work and have no-one to care for them.

Seeking on the streets is often the only option.

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Sponsors not only help their own grandparents, but also entire communities, by providing basic necessities like clean water, food and medicines - all for less than £2 a week.

By sponsoring a grandparent, you'll bring a sense of belonging and

11.45 Freddy's Nightmare
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SKY ONE

From International Business Report 5.30
News Business Channel 6.00 The DJ
Show 8.30 Panel Post Pounen 10.00 The
Price Is Right 10.30 The Young Doctors
9.00 Sky by Night 12.00 After Hours
Open Air The World Turns 1.45 Loving
Thee's Country 2.15 A's Hearts' Lucy
Groulx Showcases 3.45 Cartoons 4.00
Adventures of Gulliver 4.25 Motor
4.40 The 3 New Leave It To Beaver 5.00
Search 6.00 The New Progress
State of the Nation 7.00 Espionage 10.00
Moonlighting 8.00 Spangly 10.00
Season Tension 11.00 Sky World News
Fri 11.30 Trapper John, MD

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MTV
 Twenty-four hours of rock and pop

LIFESTYLE
 10,000 Jule's Fitness Minute 10:01
 Search for Tomorrow 10:50 White Cooking
 New 10:50 Spin Spin Clothing 11:00
 Coffee Break 11:10 Edge of Night 11:35
 Great American Gameshow 12:50pm Style
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 Rich Also City 2:40 Search for Tomorrow
 3:05 Tim Bagg 3:15 Afternoon Coveliers
 The House of 3:45 American Gameshow
 6:00 Set-a-Vision Shopping Channel 7:00

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ITS CHANNEL

1.30 Racing Today 2.00
vs Egypt 4.00 Sportait
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Basketball 7.00 Motor
cycle 8.00 The Beautiful
12.45 1 Love Keith Allen

NOW

Land Centre 10.00 Living
Business Today 11.30
12.45 1 Love Keith Allen

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News 6.30 Trax 7.00
World Cup Preview 9.00
Teens 12.30am Australia

on the hour
an International Business Report 5:30
ean Business Channel 6:00 Interna-
Business Report 11:00 International
Reports Report 1:30pm NBC Today 2:30
event Live 3:15 Prime Minister's Ques-
tion 3:30 Parliament Live 4:30 NBC
6:00 Live at Five 6:30 Beyond 2000
The Reporters 8:30 The Frank Boug
View 9:30 Target 11:30 NBC Nightly

SCREENSPOTS

BSB: THE MOVIE CHANNEL

● All Films are followed by news and weather

1.00pm The Movie Show
1.30 Act. One (1963): Hollywood biopic about Brooklyn-born playwright, Moss Hart. Starring George Hamilton and Jason Robards

3.55 Bluebeard's Eighth Wife (1938): An impoverished French aristocrat is out to get the upper hand over an over-estimated playboy

9.90 *Seawitch* 12.30 *Daughters* 10.00
Time of Your Life 10.30 *The Movie Show*
 10.00 *Playboat* 11.15 *Mrs. Peepers*
 10.00 *Dad's Army* 12.00 *Shower* 12.00 *Wife*
 10.00 *Playboat* 12.30 *The Bard and the Beautiful*
 10.00 *Maudie* 1.30 *Showering* 2.30 *Young*
 10.00 *Restless* 3.30 *Playboat* 3.45 *Mrs.*
 10.00 *perpet* 4.00 *Danger* 5.15 *430* *Kids*
 10.00 *perpet* 5.00 *Mix* 6.00 *51* *Time* 6.30
Time of Your Life 7.00 *Designing*
 7.00 *Laughs* 8.00 *Knightshift*
 8.00 *Up Yer Nose* 9.15 *I Love Kath* *Allen*
 10 *Til Death* do us Part 10.30 *Mickey*

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**Adopt a Granny
Help the Aged**

Oil sludge clean-up under fire

By Jamie Dettmer

HUNDREDS of tons of oil, leaked from the holed super-tanker Rose Bay, washed ashore on the south Devon coast yesterday, polluting over 15 miles of the county's most spectacular and popular tourist beaches.

Amid growing criticism of the clean-up operation, emergency workers were still struggling last night to prevent the stinking oil sludge from reaching rare salt marshes up the estuaries of the rivers Avon and Erme. The marshes are rich in marine and bird life.

All beaches between the holiday resorts of Salcombe to Plymouth have been affected, including Bigbury Bay and the picturesque Ayrmer Cove. The stretch of Stoke Beach around Mothecombe, at the mouth of the Erme, is one of the worst affected. There were fears last night that winds could sweep more of the sludge to so far unaffected beaches to the east and west.

The disaster began last Saturday when the 250,000-tonne Rose Bay collided with a trawler, spilling about 1,000 tons of oil into the sea. Intensive spraying with detergent appears to have broken up most of the slick but nearly 200 tons are believed to have been washed ashore.

Greenpeace continued yesterday its criticism of the clean-up operation, which is being jointly undertaken by South Hams District Council and the Marine Pollution Unit of Devon County Council. Some local inhabitants joined

in the criticism. Mr Hans Guit, of Greenpeace, said: "The authorities in this country are apparently not organized, not structured to deal with such a problem."

Yesterday morning, with few emergency workers actually on many of the beaches, Greenpeace's criticism appeared as well founded. Mr Trevor Cowley, the manager of a holiday park at Chabborough, was anxious for the clean-up operation to start quickly since the holiday season is only days away.

"This is all a kick in the teeth," he said. "We've only just managed to repair last winter's storm damage. I suppose at least we have a few people from the council on this beach. I don't know if this will affect us badly but it all depends on how quickly they get things going."

The local council, it appears, however, decided to concentrate its efforts on the sensitive wildlife areas along the coast.

Lieutenant-Colonel Ken Reynolds, Devon's County Emergency Officer, defended the clean-up operation. He said: "There is no earthly point in going to clean a beach which will be polluted with more oil at the next tide. We are not going to rush in. We want to assess the situation, see where the oil is and then make considered decisions about when to go in and where to go in."

Parliament, page 8



Workers at Bigbury cleaning up the oil slick, which has devastated the Devon coast

Van Gogh painting fetches record £49.7 m

From Sarah Jane Checkland
Art Market Correspondent
New York

THE \$100 million painting is now "in the realms of possibility" following the sale of Van Gogh's "Portrait of Dr Gachet" for a new world record of \$82.5 million (£49.7 million) on Tuesday night, according to Mr Christopher Burge, president of Christie's North America and the auctioneer at the sale.

So jubilant was the mood of the crowd which virtually carried him in triumph to the press conference after the sale, that few reflected just how far the rest of the prices lagged behind. Prospects were nothing like so rosy for many of the 80 other works offered. Many fetched 20 to 30 per cent less than their estimates. Twenty-four went unsold.

The latest art market phenomenon is therefore a dramatic dividing of the ways between top quality and the rest. The "Portrait of Dr Gachet" was always considered part of the top stream.

The battle for the Van Gogh was the stuff of auction history. Bids started at \$20 million (£12 million) and moved swiftly upwards in units of \$1 million. The dealer, Mr Hiroshi Kobayashi, entered at \$30 million, bidding unhesitatingly each time the bid was back in his court. There was applause when the \$50 million barrier was passed. There was excited laughter at \$63 million, and people started craning to get a look of Mr Kobayashi. There was a pause at \$71 million, and everyone waited for the sound of the gavel. It did not come, and the bidding proceeded.

There was a further pause, while the anonymous telephone bidder considered the situation. He decided to proceed, but Mr Kobayashi was quick with his return shot. At \$75 million, the hammer came down to tumultuous applause. With its 10 per cent buyer's premium, the final figure was \$82.5 million.

Japan's collectors, page 13
Leading article, page 15



Dr Gachet: a painting worth almost £50 million

Political sketch Making heartfelt instincts clear

"IS MY hon friend aware..." — the elfish Nicholas Bennett (C. Pembroke) had the Minister for consumer protection, Eric Forth, in his sights — "...that coming out the market are some innocuous-looking and prettily-packaged goods, with no price-tag on them, emanating from an address on the Walworth Road..."

The rest was lost in laughter. Opposition Front-Benchers, the authors of Labour's newly-unveiled policies for the next election, adopted the "no comment" glare that we have come to recognize on the face of the businessman emerging from his Jaguar to be confronted by a microphone, a camera, and one of Esther Rantzen's lieutenants.

Forth chuckled. "These products are grotesquely unsafe for the public."

The Daily Telegraph had made the same point that morning, eloquently: "Labour cannot be blamed for wanting to conceal its true intentions until the last possible moment," said its leading article. It will be the first of many, all wide of the mark.

Opposition parties do not conceal their intentions. They do not have intentions. They are not capable of it. They are shifting coalitions with differing hopes, no foreknowledge of future events, and no agreed plan for dealing with them.

What political parties do have is instincts. To search these out is more useful than the search for intentions. To know a party's instinct is to know where its heart is, and to guess its likely behaviour. Such guesses may prove more accurate than its own.

Faced with the closure of part of a nationally important business by a commercial manager, the Tory Party's instinct is to let it go. Labour's instinct is to do something. Yesterday, the Scottish Secretary, Malcolm Rifkind, reported British Steel's intention to close the hot strip mill at Ravenscraig. For Labour, Donald Dewar replied. Each found himself displaced from his own party's instincts.

For Rifkind the displacement was much more immediately painful. He was obliged to imply that he knew better than British Steel what lay in its commercial interests. He "deplored this

decision". He asked British Steel to "see the mill as an asset rather than as a liability". He invented an emblem, unknown to law, for workforce to be advised by management of the reasons for decisions. He invented an obligation on such companies to offer premises (after closure) to potential rivals.

Mr Dewar, in a powerful intervention, anchored himself to ground quite close to Mr Rifkind, while attacking his rival in violent language. His argument, too, was founded on the commercial folly of the decision. He scrupulously avoided any commitment to subsidy, or re-nationalization.

Then they both sat down. Now came the songs from the hearts of their two parties — their backbenches. It was in each case a different song from those which had come from the Dispatch Boxes.

The Scots Tories did back Rifkind. They had to. But no Tory who could afford to be careless of the electoral cost, did. Richard Holt (Langhaurgh) told Rifkind, with emphasis, that steelworks had closed in England, too, yet their districts had prospered. "We should stop looking backwards and start looking forward," he said. Ian Gow (Eastbourne) recommended to Rifkind the humility "to subordinate his own commercial judgement to that of British Steel". Philip Oppenheim (Arber Valley) thought that building Ravenscraig had been the misjudgement of a state industry.

From his own side, Dewar received support which was comforting only in the immediate sense. Alex Eadie (Midlothian), who is a moderate, saw in this a partial "indictment" of the de-nationalization of steel. Dr John Reid (Motherwell N) said this mishap was implicit in the initial privatization.

For the Liberals, Malcolm Bruce called for a Scottish steel industry which management was unable to close.

On all sides there were accusations of plots, deceptions and evasion. But what we were observing were not concealed intentions but revealed instincts. It was a revelation.

Matthew Parris

Menem moves out

Buenos Aires
PRESIDENT Menem of Argentina has moved out of the official residence to end highly publicized matrimonial strife that has taken on political overtones, the Argentine press reported yesterday.

Señor Menem, aged 59, who led the Peronist Party to victory in the May 1989

elections, has described his wife as one of the "harsh critics" of his free-market reforms. Señora Zulema Menem, aged 46, has publicly questioned the effect his policies will have on workers, pensioners and the poor. She has accused her husband's aides of corruption and maintained ties with his foes. (AP)

Minister condemns strip mill closure

Continued from page 1

of his assertion to a Tory conference a year ago that "Ravenscraig has been given a new lease of life" and of Mrs Margaret Thatcher's statement in an interview that she had a "soft spot" for the Ravenscraig workforce.

In his statement Mr Rifkind said: "British Steel announced this morning their intention to close the hot strip mill at their Ravenscraig steel works during the first half of 1991. While this, of course, is a matter for the commercial judgement of the company, I must make it clear that I deplored this decision and its implications for the workforce. I am also very disturbed by the potential implications of closing the hot strip mill for the future of Ravenscraig as a whole."

"As yet, British Steel have not provided any details as to why they believe that the closure of the hot strip mill is necessary. I very much hope they will do so, as those

affected are entitled to the fullest possible information. The hot strip mill has been a valuable asset for the company over the last three years and we are not aware why it ceased to be so. I also very much hope that British Steel will take all their workforce at Ravenscraig into their confidence as to their future employment prospects."

"The decision announced by British Steel is not due to come into effect until the first half of next year. There is still, therefore, opportunity for the company to reconsider their decision and see the hot strip mill as an asset rather than as a liability."

"The Scottish Office, naturally, regrets any decision that has significant adverse employment implications. As we would with any other major employer in Scotland we shall seek to persuade British Steel to reconsider their proposal in the interests of the company and its workforce."

The Scottish Conservative Party immediately pledged to join all other parties to persuade British Steel to change its mind. Mr Michael Forsyth, the Scottish party chairman, said: "The workers of Ravenscraig deserve to be supported. This issue demands unity of purpose between all of Scotland's political parties."

Yesterday's announcement offered little hope for the future of the 3,200-strong Ravenscraig workforce. Sir Robert said the closure was necessary because demand had fallen and growing imports had brought pressure on the company to reduce costs. British Steel was responsible to its shareholders and, having been privatized, had to prove that it would continue to be as efficient as possible. "Our role in the UK is to present low priced or competitively priced, high quality steel for our manufacturing base," he said.

Mr Tommy Brennan, shop stewards' convenor at the plant, said the decision would lead to the eventual death of Ravenscraig. "It is an outrage. It is the worst announcement we have ever heard." Local community leaders said an eventual closure of Ravenscraig could lead to up to 15,000 people losing their jobs in support industries.

Mr Iain Lawson, the Scottish National Party's steel spokesman, said: "This is the grossest possible betrayal of one of the finest workforces anywhere in Europe. British Steel are willing to waste £83 million of shareholders' money installing concast facilities at Llanwrn which already exist at Ravenscraig. No one can now be in any doubt, there is no British future for Scottish steel. An independent Scottish steel industry is the only solution. We want a price from British Steel for their Scottish operations, and we want it now. They must be

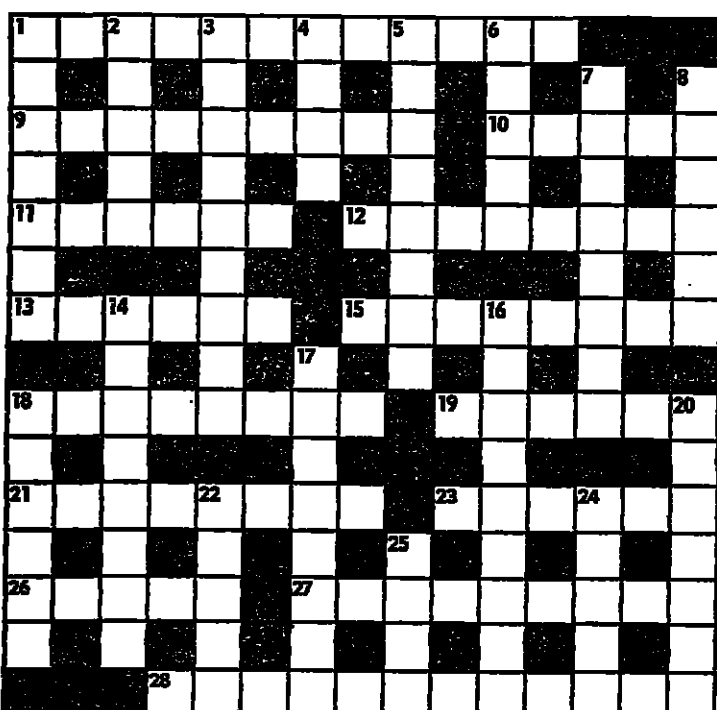
forced to sell immediately, not in four years' time when it is too late."

Before meeting Sir Robert to urge new investment instead of a cutback, Mr Dewar said: "I believe it is a fundamentally wrong decision based on a narrow view of likely future demand. The closure is not in the interests of the industry or the country. We all know that the European market is going to expand in the next four or five years with the big build-up of demand in the car industry with Japanese firms coming into Britain and with North Sea oil demand."

The plant was important to rail freight in Scotland, the Hunterston ore terminal in Ayrshire and the electricity industry.

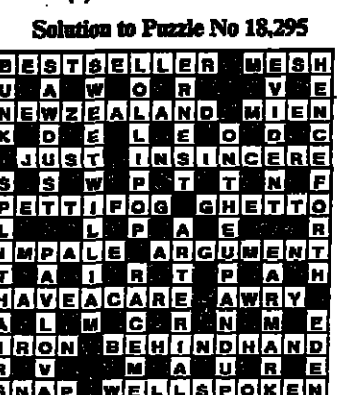
Mr Campbell Christie, general secretary of the Scottish TUC, said the broadest campaign ever seen in Scotland must ensure that the closure of Ravenscraig in the mid-1990s did not occur.

THE TIMES CROSSWORD PUZZLE NO 18,296



ACROSS

- 1 Is it, perhaps, right? It's wrong for clerics (6,6).
- 9 Clean inside sink, so to speak (9).
- 10 Above a pound of tea, we hear (5).
- 11 Complete home address (6).
- 12 Too big for his boots, acted like a bouncer? (6-2).
- 13 Gang-leader has to discourage dangerous criminal (6).
- 15 Poison, possibly, for US revolutionary without first name (8).
- 18 It was just the ticket for Jack (8).
- 19 Encounter opponents at bridge, returning prize (8).
- 21 The clay's modelled in a modest way (8).
- 23 Organized workers to investigate Italian type (6).
- 26 Present some children do without (5).



DOWN

- 27 Only pretended, and so it is false (3-6).
- 28 Loose women rush round me in the ship (3,7).
- 1 Walking to north from station (7).
- 2 One caught, inter alia, in second test? (5).
- 3 Person who acts deliberately to brake vehicle (9).
- 4 Explorer's estate (4).
- 5 Unfairness within union (8).
- 6 Rogue son's taken over party (5).
- 7 By the way, it's invariably found (8).
- 8 Special plates for main diet (6).
- 14 Two little boys in William's place (8).
- 16 Like man having endless row, in a state (9).
- 17 People's representative — one out of 16 changed (5,3).
- 18 Gate secured by catch, possibly (6).
- 20 Maintain watch on old warship (7).
- 22 Keep horse on canal, perhaps (5).
- 24 Fish with 16 for a spell (5).
- 25 Prejudice in certain spheres directed towards Jack (4).

Coarse Crossword, page 22

WORD-WATCHING

A daily safari through the language jungle. Which of the possible definitions is correct?
By Philip Howard

- MYRINGA**
a. The mock orange
b. An ear drum
c. A ring of mice
- GHAZI**
a. An outdoor lavatory
b. A Muslim warrior
c. Persian carpet with animals
- AUSTRINGER**
a. A keeper of goshawks
b. A Mediterranean south wind
c. A bullfighter's valet
- BOGUSWARE**
a. Fictitious Lane porcelain
b. A false alarm
c. Malware computer software

Answers on page 22

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic and roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0836 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks	731
C. London (within M & S Circles)	732
M-ways/roads M4-M1	733
M-ways/roads M1-Dartford T. 734	734
M-ways/roads M23-M4	735
M25 London Orbital only	736
National traffic and roadworks	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Angles	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 5p for 8 seconds (peak and standard) 5p for 12 seconds (off peak).

WEATHER

England, Wales and Northern Ireland will have a mostly dry day with bright or sunny spells. Parts of north-east England will be cloudy, especially near the coast. Central and southern Scotland will be cloudy with rain at first in places, but it will become brighter away from the east coast. Outlook: bright, or sunny, spells, but cloudy and cooler on eastern coasts. Scattered showers in the south.

ABROAD

City	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Notes
Algeria	22/28	S	100	
Alexandria	24/30	S	100	
Amman	17/23	N	100	
Algiers	25/31	S	100	
Amman	17/23	N	100	
Athens	28/34	S	100	
Bahia	24/28	S	100	
Bombay	29/34	S	100	
Buenos Aires	24/28	S	100	
Calcutta	29/34	S	100	
Cairo	24/28	S	100	
Cardiff	19/26	N	100	
Chennai	29/34	S	100	
Columbo	29/34	S	100	
Dhaka	29/34	S	100	
Dubai	29/34	S	100	
Edinburgh	19/26	N	100	
Geneva	19/26	N	100	
Hong Kong	29/34	S	100	
London	19/26	N	100	
Lyons	19/26	N	100	
Madrid	19/26	N	100	
Manila	29/34	S	100	
Moscow	19/26	N	100	
Paris	19/26	N	100	
Perth	19/26	N	100	
Rangoon	29/34	S	100	
Reykjavik	19/26	N	100	
Rome	19/26	N	100	
Singapore	29/34	S	100	
Sofia	19/26	N	100	
Taipei	29/34	S	100	
Tokyo	29/34	S	100	
Yokohama	29/34	S	100	

Notes: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 20C (68F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 10C (50F). Wind: 24 hr to 6 pm, 10C (50F). Rain: 24 hr to 6 pm, 0.25 in. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, 8.8 hr.

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday's highest day temp: Heathrow Airport, 22C (72F); lowest day temp: File Ness, 10C (50F). Highest night temp: Bognor Regis, West Sussex, 11.3 hr.

MANCHESTER

Yesterday's Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 18C (64F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 10C (50F). Rain: 24 hr to 6 pm, 0.25 in. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, 8.8 hr.

GLASGOW

Yesterday's Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 11C (52F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 0C (32F). Rain: 24 hr to 6 pm, 0.48 in. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, 8.8 hr.

TOWER BRIDGE

Tower Bridge will be closed at the following times today: 8.50 am and 10 pm.

England, Wales and Northern Ireland will have

a mostly dry day with bright or sunny spells. Parts of north-east England will be cloudy, especially near the coast. Central and southern Scotland will be cloudy with rain at first in places, but it will become brighter away from the east coast. Outlook: bright, or sunny, spells, but cloudy and cooler on eastern coasts. Scattered showers in the south.

AROUND BRITAIN

City	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Notes
Cardiff	19/26	N	100	
Edinburgh	19/26	N	100	
London	19/26	N	100	
Lyons	19/26	N	100	
Madrid	19/26	N	100	
Manila	29/34	S	100	
Moscow	19/26	N	100	
Paris	19/26	N	100	
Perth	19/26	N	100	
Rangoon	29/34	S	100	
Reykjavik	19/26	N	100	
Rome	19/26	N	100	
Singapore	29/34	S	100	
Sofia	19/26	N	100	
Taipei	29/34	S	100	
Tokyo	29/34	S	100	
Yokohama	29/34	S	100	

Notes: Temp: max 6 am to 6 pm, 20C (68F); min 6 pm to 6 am, 10C (50F). Wind: 24 hr to 6 pm, 10C (50F). Rain: 24 hr to 6 pm, 0.25 in. Sun: 24 hr to 6 pm, 8.8 hr.

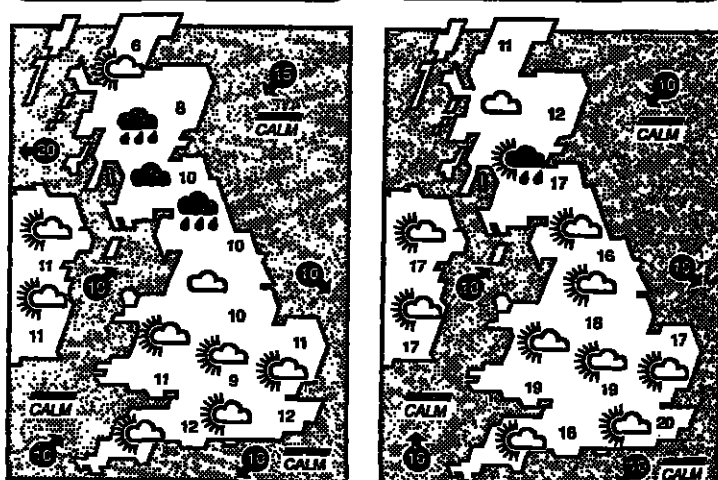
TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0800 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701*
Kent, Surrey, Sussex	702*
Dorset, Hants & IOW	703*
Devon & Cornwall	704*
Wiltshire, Gloucestershire, Somerset	705*
W. Central Scotland	706*
Bedford, Herts & Essex	707*
Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambs	708*
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709*
Stroud, Hereford & Wores	710*
Central Midlands	711*
East Midlands	712*
Lincoln & Humberside	713*
Dyfed & Powys	714*
Gwynedd & Chwyd	715*
N.W. England	716*
W & S Yorks & Dales	717*
N.W. England	718*
Cumbria & Lake District	719*
S.W. Scotland	720*
W. Central Scotland	721*
Edin S. Fife/Lothian & Borders	722*
Central Midlands	723*
Grampian & E Highlands	724*
N.W. Scotland	725*
Central Midlands	726*
Grampian, Orkney & Shetland	727*
N. Ireland	728*

Weathercall is charged at 5p for 8 seconds (peak and standard) 5p for 12 seconds (off peak).

AM PM



LIGHTING-UP TIME

London 8.49 pm to 5.05 am
Belfast 8.59 pm to 5.15 am
Edinburgh 9.22 pm to 4.55 am
Manchester 9.04 pm to 5.04 am
Penzance 9.04 pm to 5.32 am

POLLEN COUNT

The pollen count for London and the South-east issued by the Asthma Research Council at 10 am yesterday was 2 (low). Forecast for today, low. For the next 24 hours call National Pollen and Hay Fever Bureau: 0898 500429 (updated at midday).

HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	7.18	6.2	7.22	6.1	Liverpool	7.18	6.2	7.22	6.1
Abertillery	6.49	5.5	7.27	5.8	Lewesport	3.24	2.0	2.52	1.1
Avonmouth	12.02	10.4	12.30	10.3	Widnes	1.47	0.2	1.55	0.1
Belfast	4.29	3.1	5.19	2.9	Widford Haven	1.49	5.2	—	—
Cardiff	11.25	4.3	11.49	9.8	Worcester	1.47	0.2	1.55	0.1
Doverport	4.17	5.3	4.53	5.4	Worcester	1.47	0.2	1.55	0.1
Falmouth	10.55	4.1	11.19	4.3	Penzance	10.39	5.4	11.23	4.5
Gloucester	4.17	5.3	4.53	5.4	Portsmouth	11.08	—	—	—
Grimsby	3.58	4.3	4.36	4.4	Portland	4.44	3.9	5.00	4.0
Harwich	3.47	4.7	4.20	4.3	Sharnbrook	4.22	4.9	12.17	5.0
Headford	3.48	4.7	4.36	4.4	Southampton	4.22	3.8	5.17	3.8
Hull	11.41	5.0	—	—	Swansea	11.50	—	—	—
Ilfracombe	11.33	7.0	—	—	Tees	9.54	4.5	10.24	4.3
King's Lynn	11.47	4.4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
London	11.44	4.5	9.05	4.4	—	—	—	—	—

BUSINESS

SECTION 2

THURSDAY MAY 17 1990

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● PETS 39
● CAMPAIGN FOR OXFORD 41-43
● SPORT 44-48

Executive Editor
David Brewerton

THE POUND

US dollar
1.5775 (-0.0005)
W German mark
2.7569 (-0.0099)
Exchange index
87.4 (-0.1)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share
1739.8 (+8.2)
FT-SE 100
2221.1 (+8.9)
USM (Datastream)
130.28 (+0.27)

Market report, page 32

Shares in
Dan-Air
firm soar

SHARES of Davies & Newman Holdings, owner of the Dan-Air airline, soared at the prospect of either a bid or a co-operation deal, probably involving a competitor taking a substantial stake.

The shares ended up 150p at 575p after the company said it was in discussions with a number of interested parties. Speculation centres on moves from a US or European airline. *Comment, page 27*

Profits drop

Avon Rubber suffered a 20 per cent fall in pre-tax profits to £4.84 million in the six months to March. Earnings per share were 37 pence down at 13.7p. The dividend stays at 5p. *Tempos, page 26*

Ultramar hit

Ultramar reports first quarter net income of £18.4 million compared with £32.2 million last time, after suffering from lower refining margins in California. *Tempos, page 26*

STOCK MARKETS

New York
Dow Jones 2811.81 (+10.84)
Tokyo
Nikkei Average 31967.02 (+29.42)
Hong Kong
Hang Seng 2948.89 (-16.20)
Amsterdam
AMS Tendency 1183 (+0.4)
Frankfurt
Frankfurt DAX 1841.77 (-9.48)
Brussels
General 6188.44 (+2.24)
Paris
Paris CAC 548.15 (+2.22)
Zurich
Zurich S&K Gen 618.4 (+1.7)
London
FT-A All-Share 1094.43 (+4.74)
FT-100 1198.9 (+3.43)
FT-Gold Mining 218.6 (+4.2)
FT-Fixed Interest 66.13 (same)
FT-Govt Secs 76.91 (-0.14)

MAIN PRICE CHANGES

RISES:
SG Warburg 422½p (+13p)
Carr's Milling 148½p (+12p)
Rural Telecom 355½p (+14p)
Greene King 383½p (+4p)
Vaux Group 221½p (+10p)
Whamport & Dudley 353p (+12p)
Amec 427½p (+10p)
Alcan 427½p (+10p)
Capital Radio 155p (+10p)
Carlton Comm 548½p (+17p)
BAT 653p (+12p)
Davies & Newman 575p (+150p)
Rechem 485p (+15p)

FALLS:
Henderson Admin 695p (-10p)
Grand Met 573½p (-13p)
Eurotunnel Units 515p (-10p)
Gird 155p (-15p)
News Corp 482½p (-10p)
Glaxo 782½p (-30p)
Kleen-E-Z 124½p (-29p)

INTEREST RATES

London: Bank Base: 15%
3-month interbank 15½-15¾%
3-month electric bill 14½-14¾%
US: Prime Rate 10%
Federal Funds 8½-9%
3-month Treasury Bill 7.87-7.88%
30-year bonds 101-101½

CURRENCIES

London:
£: \$1.5775
£: DM2.7569
£: SFR2.3493
£: FF5.2825
£: ¥165.248
£: Index 87.4
ECU 20.739714 SDP 20.739715
£: ECU1.351678 SDP 1.351679

GOLD

London Fixing:
AM \$369.80 PM \$369.85
COMEX \$369.75-370.25 (2219.75-2220.25)
New York:
Comex \$369.70-370.20*

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent (Jun) \$17.80bbl (\$18.10)
* Denotes latest trading price

TOURIST RATES

	Bank	Bank
Amsterdam	2.32	2.32
Brussels	2.32	2.32
Frankfurt	2.32	2.32
Geneva	2.32	2.32
London	2.32	2.32
Paris	2.32	2.32
Rome	2.32	2.32
Switzerland	2.32	2.32
Vienna	2.32	2.32
Zurich	2.32	2.32

Notes for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques.
Retail Price Index: 125.1 (April)

Guerin 'sold arms illegally to South Africa'

By Angela Mackay

MR JAMES Guerin, the former deputy chairman of Ferranti International, masterminded a scheme to export weapons illegally to South Africa, according to evidence presented by the US Federal Bureau of Investigation yesterday.

The US District Court of Pennsylvania was told by special agent Mr Gerard O'Callaghan that Mr Guerin and his brother-in-law Mr Carl Jacobson established a "front" company in New York, Gamma Systems, which was only a post office box to deceive the authorities.

In the early 1970s, Mr Guerin, an American, founded International Signal & Control, a weapons and aviation company, and later sold the Pennsylvania-based company to Ferranti, the British defence electronics group, for £460 million. Last September, a few months after Mr Guerin resigned from the board and sold

his shares, Ferranti announced it had uncovered a £215 million shortfall in the value of its assets caused by alleged large-scale frauds at ISC.

Mr O'Callaghan said: "Gamma was a front company to put ISC at arms length from transactions to South Africa" but he did not reveal the details of these transactions.

On Tuesday, a representative of the US Internal Revenue Service gave evidence at the hearing that Mr Guerin had directed a \$1 billion military contracts fraud during the 1980s which had artificially inflated the share prices of both ISC, and later, Ferranti.

The FBI agent told the US District Attorney, Mr Robert Goldman, yesterday that Gamma Systems was one of the companies involved in the \$1 billion fraud as well as illegal arms shipments.

Representing the government, Mr Goldman is trying to maintain a court

order which has frozen \$2 million deposited with the court by Mr Guerin in a severance pay dispute with his former lawyer, Mr William Clark.

The government alleges Mr Guerin is not entitled to repayment of the funds because they were obtained through fraud and racketeering and that Mr Clark is not entitled to the money because he allegedly used extortion and blackmail to force Mr Guerin to sign the pay deal.

In his testimony, Mr O'Callaghan said Mr Clark knew of ISC's illegal activities. He said he had gleaned this from interviews with a former ISC finance executive, Mr James Deitch, who said Mr Clark told him "Those (ISC) people have to worry, they are going to go."

According to the FBI agent, Mr Deitch and two former directors of Ferranti, Mr Joseph Zilligen and Mr Clyde Ivy, were "criminals and crooks."

Mr Guerin said in January that Mr Clark

forced him to sign the pay agreement using blackmail related to the web of illegal activities. He said he secretly taped conversations with Mr Clark which would prove this. The tapes have been subpoenaed by a Grand Jury.

Ferranti has issued writs for damages against Mr Guerin and eight other companies and people to try to recover the money allegedly pilfered from the company. Mr Guerin has consistently protested his innocence.

At the hearing on Tuesday, the court was told by an Internal Revenue Service agent, Ms Amy Zelnik, that ISC had fabricated contracts for non-existent systems. "They are entirely fictitious," she said.

Losses arising from the alleged fraud caused the near-collapse of Ferranti, which had to make special arrangements with its bankers and stand-by underwriting arrangements for share issues. The company is extricating itself by selling parts of

the business, and has just recruited the company doctor Mr Eugene Anderson as chairman in place of Sir Derek Alton-Jones, who was chairman at the time the ISC takeover was agreed with Mr Guerin.

It is alleged that ISC used a network of bank accounts in the United States and Switzerland, a number of "front" companies, false inventories and forged contracts to hide the funds. Before the Ferranti takeover, ISC chose a listing on the London stock market, rather than in the US, because disclosure requirements were less severe.

Meanwhile, in a separate court hearing, Mr Jacobson was sentenced to two months imprisonment for his role as a "bagman" in bribing a US Navy official with \$80,000 to try to obtain more defence contracts for another company founded by Mr Guerin, United Chem-Con. Several United Chem-Con executives have been convicted. Mr Guerin has not been charged in the matter.

Lonrho to sue
Tebbit over
HoF takeover

By Graham Searjeant, Financial Editor

LONRHO, the international trading group, has issued a writ against Mr Norman Tebbit, Trade Secretary at the time of the takeover of House of Fraser by the Fayed five years ago.

The writ, which claims substantial damages, names the Secretary of State, making it effectively a writ against the Government of the day.

Lonrho accuses Mr Tebbit of negligence and abuse of his powers and claims damages for the loss of Lonrho's opportunity to bid for House of Fraser at the crucial time.

Much of the Lonrho campaign against the Government and the Fayed has centred on Mr Tebbit's decision to allow them to buy HoF without a reference to the Monopolies Commission, the subject of a report by DTI inspectors published two months ago after an 18-month delay.

By contrast, Lonrho's writ against Mr Tebbit centres on his not allowing Lonrho to bid at the same time as the Fayed were making their offer in March, 1985.

Mr Tebbit was sent an MMC report on the relations between Lonrho and the then independent House of Fraser on February 14, 1985.

It recommended that Lonrho be allowed to bid for House of Fraser. This was nearly three weeks before the Fayed launched their bid for HoF on March 4. But Lonrho could not bid for HoF because it was still subject to an under-

taking to the Trade Secretary, stemming from an earlier MMC report, which only Mr Tebbit could agree to lift.

Lonrho claims Mr Tebbit's decision not to release Lonrho promptly from its 1981 undertaking was negligent and an abuse of his powers.

Although the MMC report was published with Mr Tebbit's approval on March 7, 1985, Mr Tebbit did not release Lonrho from its undertaking until March 14. That was three days after the Fayed had won control of HoF by buying shares in the stock market, some of them ultimately from Lonrho.

The release was announced simultaneously with Mr Tebbit's decision not to refer the Fayed bid to the MMC. The latter decision was taken unusually rapidly, only 10 days after the bid was announced.

The crucial delay in releasing Lonrho from its undertaking, despite publication of the

report recommending Lonrho be freed to bid, has never been satisfactorily explained.

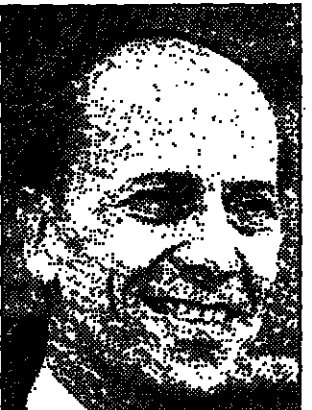
Mr Tebbit flew out of London and was unavailable for comment yesterday. He is believed to be returning later today. So the writ has not yet been served.

Due to the rules of Crown privilege, suits for damages against ministers acting within their powers, or the Government, are rare. It would be open to the Government to support a defendant being sued over his duties as a minister. It is also possible the writ could be legally challenged, delaying or obviating substantive hearing of the issues.

Lonrho has already attempted to sue the Fayed, Kleinwort Benson (their merchant bank adviser on the HoF bid) and Mr John MacArthur, then a director of Kleinwort Benson. But a long-running challenge to the writ awaits final appeal to the House of Lords. Bernard Sunley, a construction group now half-owned by Lonrho, has also issued a writ against the Fayed.

Mr Paul Spicer, a Lonrho director, said the action against Mr Tebbit had been considered earlier, but that Lonrho had had to wait for the inspectors' report into HoF to be published and await reactions to it.

"If people are going to sit around doing nothing and allow an uneven playing field to exist in this country, the only option is to take action for ourselves," he added.



Tebbit: unavailable

NatWest aims to add French
bank to European network

By Neil Bennett, Banking Correspondent

NATIONAL Westminster Bank is in exclusive negotiations to buy L'Européenne de Banque from Crédit Commercial de France, in an attempt to add another block to its growing European network.

Talks are in an early stage, but analysts estimate that NatWest would have to pay between £80 million and £100 million.

The banks' joint statement was designed to prevent any rival offers, since the disposal of L'Européenne has long been suggested in the French press as it duplicates CCF's existing commercial and retail banking operations.

A CCF spokeswoman said

the bank had received many offers for the bank, but L'Européenne's management had chosen NatWest as its preferred parent.

L'Européenne has total assets of Fr13.79 billion (£1.46 billion) and last year made a net profit of Fr62 million. It has 16 branches, half in Paris, and employs 1,300.

The bank specializes in wealthy "gold card" customers, and has 50,000 accounts. It also caters for medium-sized company accounts. Its main subsidiary is L'Affaire Investissement, which has 230 life assurance salesmen operating from 24 branches.

The bank also has a strong

asset management business with funds of Fr21 billion. L'Européenne was originally Banque Rothschild, but was nationalized in 1982 and renamed. In 1985, it was merged with CCF, which rationalized it and improved profitability.

The disposal would be part of reorganization at CCF.

The acquisition would be an important step in NatWest's European expansion.

This week the bank completed its purchase of a 40 per cent stake in Van Lanschot, the fifth largest Dutch bank, from Rabobank, to bring its stake to 80 per cent.

NatWest has 10 branches in France.

Sheppard scoops up a winner



Ice-cool cheer: Allen Sheppard (left) and Ian Martin launch Häagen-Dazs in London, served by Lisa Blake

BAe to buy
three Rush
businesses

By Jeremy Andrews

BRITISH Aerospace is to buy three regional construction businesses of Rush & Tompkins, the property group which collapsed last month with debts of more than £300 million.

BAe will expand the British operations of Ballast Nedam, its civil engineering subsidiary, by paying Rush's receiver an undisclosed sum for six regional offices, plant and work in progress, and will be offering new contracts to about 250 of Rush's 1,750 former employees. BAe acquired Ballast Nedam for \$90 million in December 1987, nine months after it bought Royal Ordnance.

Although based in Holland, Ballast was bought from Wedge International, a Lebanese company, and has substantial operations in Saudi Arabia, where it has been active for 27 years.

Ballast's turnover last year was £450 million, but only £20 million came from the UK, where it employs just 150 of its 4,000 staff.

Mr Philip Alexander, Ballast's director of strategic planning and business development, said it was BAe's policy to increase the size of the UK operations.

BAe will be taking on Rush & Tompkins' construction assets in the South-east, South-west and northern regions.

British Aerospace is not buying Rush's property development business.

'Mad cow' upsets GrandMet

By Our City Staff

AN OUTBREAK of stock-market jitters over "mad cow disease" and its impact on the British restaurant business marred the announcement of a sharply higher set of interim profits from Grand Metropolitan, the drinks, food and pubs group, driving the shares 13p lower to 574p.

Mr Allen Sheppard, the GrandMet chairman, reported pre-tax profits 36 per cent higher at £409 million for the six months to end-March and

an interim dividend up 15 per cent to 7.6p after adjusting for the effects of a 1988 rights issue. He hit out at fears over bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE), which have weakened the shares, saying that little more than half a per cent of the group's business came from British beef.

GrandMet had contingency plans to switch entirely to imported meat within two days if customers at its Burger King and other restaurants in Britain "voted with their feet" and there was a fall in demand, said Mr Sheppard. "At this stage in the game we see no reason to do that."

Profits at Burger King, bought as part of the \$5.75 billion purchase of the US Pillsbury food business in 1988, jumped from £14 million in the three months they were included in figures last year to £53 million for the half year. Trading profits from the rest of Pillsbury's business rose from £40 million to £100 million over the same period.

Tempos, page 26

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Rank 'confirms' speculation by refusing to rule out full bid

Mecca standing by to repel boarders

By Martin Waller

MECCA Leisure Group went on full bid alert yesterday as Rank Organisation, the larger leisure and entertainment combine, issued a statement that apparently confirmed market speculation by refusing to rule out a full bid.

Mecca shares, in the doldrums since the group revealed huge borrowings and poor full-year profits last month, have risen from 58p last Thursday to 79p yesterday, after Rank's statement admitted Mecca had been kept under "periodic review."

It said: "While the options available to Rank inevitably include making an offer for Mecca, no decision has been made."

Mecca, chaired by Mr Michael Guthrie, rushed out its own statement, saying no approach had been made from Rank or anyone else and advising shareholders to take no action.

Rank said the weather eye it had kept

on Mr Guthrie's troubled leisure empire "follows an established pattern of appraising and assessing companies in similar businesses in home and overseas markets." In January it made a surprise £37 million cash call to fund further expansion, but at the time the focus of its attention was thought to be overseas.

The market was not expecting an immediate full bid from Rank, not least because of monopolies problems caused by the overlap in the two companies' bingo operations and possibly their holiday camps in this country. But Rank could decide to take an interest in the £250 million-worth of disposals Mr Guthrie is being forced to make.

The statement was prompted by the City's Panel on Takeovers and Mergers, given the sharp rise in the Mecca price and the talk of a Rank bid that had swirled around the Mecca. Rank met the Panel earlier this week.

Denial of any intention to bid would

have blocked Rank for a six-month period under Panel rules. This might have been inconvenient, analysts believe, if the Mecca price slipped to a level that might prompt an opportunistic bid.

"I have no trouble acting in accord with the Code," said Mr Clifford. But he admitted: "Clearly, but for the Code, we wouldn't have made a statement."

Rank narrowly missed acquiring Mecca when the latter was spun off from Grand Metropolitan, its old parent, in 1985. It is thought to have bid £100 million for the business, but GrandMet favoured a £95 million management buyout.

Mr Guthrie was relaxed about the Rank statement. "There's been so much speculation because we're seen as having heavy debts that it comes as no surprise to me," he said.

Any full cash bid at, for example, £1 a share would burden Rank with debts approaching £1 billion.

Sentiment goes against GrandMet

CL 211
to LOSS

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workforce.

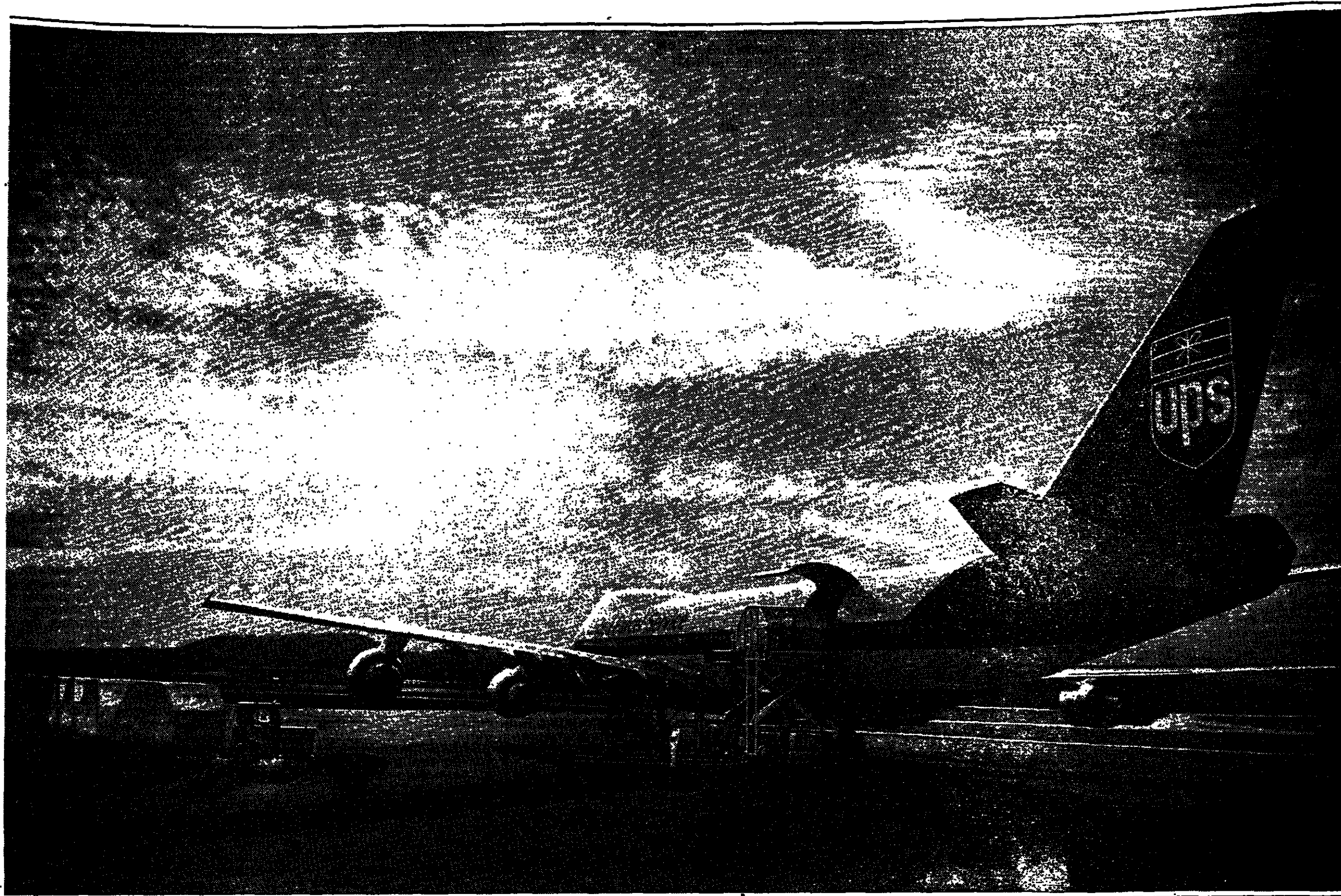
Short Story

Signs of dirty dealing

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No place for Hoskyns as CGS looks at UK growth

From Melinda Wittstock, Paris

CAP Gemini Sogeti, Europe's largest software services and information technology group, has ruled out a bid for Hoskyns, the British computer group which has been seen as a likely target.

But the fast-growing Paris company, which is anxious to expand its activities in Britain and has built up a hostile 22.6 per cent stake in SEMA, Britain's largest computer services company, confirmed however that it is looking closely at a number of other UK software houses.

CGS, which operates in 12 European countries and the US, has also been tipped as a likely bidder for SD-Scicon and Logica.

With £7.2 billion cash (£214 million) in the balance sheet and another £2.2 billion to £3 billion borrowing facilities in place, CGS said it could spend between £4 billion and £5 billion on acquisitions (compared with the £3 billion spent in the past five years).

But M Serge Kamps, CGS's founder and chairman, who is "scrutinizing all competitors for acquisition opportunities," said Hoskyns did not fit with the groups' "seven golden rules about acquisitions."

He said a company must be engaged in the same or similar business - "and that rules out Hoskyns."

M Kamps, who owns 55 per cent of CGS, which is quoted on the Paris Bourse, also ruled out hostile bids.

He said CGS is interested in both large and medium-sized houses which are profitable, well-respected, share a business culture of "honesty, openness and loyalty" and come equipped with either strong management or management that can be easily replaced.

But CGS will take a "long, hard, critical look" at what is available to ensure that there are no *cadavres*, or skeletons, in the closet. Any British target must have audited ac-

Blue Circle in £93m Danish venture

By Our City Staff

BLUE Circle Industries is buying 50 per cent of Aalborg Portland Cement's cement business for 980 million Danish kroner (£93 million) cash. Aalborg Portland is Denmark's only cement maker.

The purchase includes Aalborg's related interests in aggregates, pulverized fuel ash and fuel trading, plus a 20 per cent shareholding in the Lehigh White Cement Co in the United States. But it does not include Aalborg Portland's interests in the companies Dansk Eternit Faerdigbeton Aalborg, Faxe Kalk, HKT and Spandbeton.

Aalborg will transfer its cement business to a new company in which Aalborg and Blue Circle will each hold 50 per cent.

The cement business had pre-tax profits of 80 million kroner in calendar 1989 and net assets of 893 million kroner. It sold 1.3 million tonnes of grey cement in Denmark in 1989.

Blue Circle said the purchase fits its strategy of extending its cement and related activities to the Continent.

It said the business is expected to increase sales in the Danish market this year and the joint venture has the opportunity "significantly to increase capacity utilization and profits in the export market for both grey and white cements."

Blue Circle shares advanced 8p to 218p.

Baris surges to £1.64m



Buoyant Robert Smith, right, and Bernard Atkinson of Baris, whose profits rose 137%

STRONG organic growth helped Baris Holdings to pre-tax profits of £1.64 million - a 137 per cent surge - in the year to end-February (Philip Pangalos writes).

Turnover at Baris, the fire protection and dry lining specialist that came to the USM last November, advanced by 109 per cent to £11.1 million. Earnings per share jumped by 136 per cent to 16.3p. There is a first and final dividend of 3.75p.

Mr Robert Smith, chairman, said prospects for the coming year were excellent. He said: "The areas we are working in are very buoyant, and we expect them to stay that way."

Mr Smith, who is co-founder and joint managing director with Mr Bernard Atkinson, added that the order book, which stood at about £10 million - compared with £2.5 million before - was strong, and the number and value of inquiries had never been higher.

The value of outstanding inquiries has increased from £29 million, at the time of the flotation, to £40 million.

Smith & Nephew said it will

Damages against Smith & Nephew may reach \$125m

From Philip Robinson, Los Angeles

DAMAGES against Smith & Nephew, the pharmaceutical group, could rise to almost \$125 million following a California court ruling.

The court found that the company's US offshoot committed fraud, acted in bad faith and attempted to misappropriate trade secrets without paying for them.

The court was considering last night whether to double a \$12.5 million portion of the damages already awarded against Smith & Nephew Richards and then add \$10 million in interest to the bill.

The decision is unlikely to be known for about a fortnight. A jury has already awarded \$102 million damages to Polteco, the private research company owned by Dr AE Zachariades, an American chemist who invented a compound for false joints.

Polteco began legal action against Smith & Nephew Richards on January 4, 1988, for taking his compound and using it without paying him in artificial knee and hip joints.

After a seven-week case, the jury found that Smith & Nephew Richards had fraudulently entered into a licence agreement with Polteco to keep the new technology away from competitors; that as one of America's leading orthopaedic product makers it had misappropriated Polteco's technology without paying for it; and had acted in bad faith by repudiating its obligations under a contract.

Smith & Nephew said it will appeal and that it does not use, and never has used, any of the Polteco technology, which gives 10 times more wear in artificial joints. No formal appeal has yet been lodged.

Mr David Henderson, of Brown & Bain, attorney for Polteco, said Smith & Nephew Richards had been using the Polteco compound since 1988.

He claimed Smith & Nephew Richards' technicians deliberately found fault with it to avoid paying.

"Two independent laboratories gave evidence that the compound met the standards which Polteco and Smith & Nephew Richards had first set."

"They just wanted to keep that technology away from their competitors," said Mr Henderson.

Polteco has now licensed the compound to Zimmer, another orthopaedic products maker which will incorporate it in artificial joints in 1992.

Lawyers for the compound's inventor are to seek an injunction seeking to recall all Smith & Nephew Richards' products containing the compound which have not already been used.

It is unclear how the case will affect Smith & Nephew's American earnings. Mr Henderson said the company's 1989 results had singled out the performance of its surgical products group, saying the orthopaedic division - whose Genesis Knees and Opti-fix hips use the compound - rose 37 per cent.

Inchcape buys into US environment market

By Our City Staff

INCHCAPE, the international services and marketing group, is paying \$12 million for control of two leading environmental testing companies in Louisiana and Texas.

It is buying West-Paine, of Baton Rouge, Louisiana, outright and 60 per cent of NDRC, which has operations in Dallas and Houston, with options to buy the balance in 1993 and 1995.

The two companies had a combined turnover of \$9 million in 1989. Describing the

acquisitions as "strategically very important investments," Sir George Turnbull, the chairman and chief executive of Inchcape, said the large and rapidly expanding environmental testing market offered significant opportunities to the group in North America.

Sir George added that Texas and Louisiana had become key states in the development of environmental testing because of their heavy industrialization and the increasing pressure from state environmental bodies.

SUN ALLIANCE

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The First Annual General Meeting of Sun Alliance Group plc was held yesterday at the Head Office of the Company in Bartholomew Lane, London, E.C.2.

Mr. H. U. A. Lambert, the Chairman, said -

It is not the Group's practice to publish quarterly results, but I shall provide a brief outline of our estimated results to 31st March.

Market conditions in the U.K. continue to be highly competitive and the rate of growth in premium income has fallen for most personal and commercial lines.

Overseas results have also been affected by severe weather losses and strong competition.

We have already signalled that despite reinsurance protection, the aggregate losses in the U.K. from the hurricane on 25th January and subsequent heavy storms are estimated at £220m. These losses are £150m higher than we would normally expect from winter weather and have inevitably led to a substantial overall pre-tax loss in the quarter.

Sun Alliance Group plc

"We have continued to grow in our main business activities..."

Inchcape

PROFIT BEFORE TAXATION UP 19%
from £148m to £176m

Inchcape

EARNINGS PER SHARE UP 17%
from 24.1p to 28.3p

Inchcape

DIVIDEND PER SHARE UP 19%
from 9.25p to 11.0p

Inchcape

"We have maintained our programme of capital investment in our business streams, and the main thrust of that investment is to ensure that we are building a company that will continue to grow in the long term."

Inchcape

THE INTERNATIONAL SERVICES AND MARKETING GROUP

Comments by Sir George Turnbull, Chairman & Chief Executive. If you would like a copy of his full statement, contained in our 1989 Report and Accounts, please write to Diana Le Lievre, Inchcape plc, St. James's House, 23 King Street, London SW1Y 6QY.

Mrs Fields in licence agreement

MRS FIELDS, the US biscuit maker, has arranged a licence agreement giving La Petite Boucherie the right to sell Mrs Fields products and to rebrand most of its 104 stores as Mrs Fields Bakeries.

LPB, owned by Condit and Randall Fields' private company, Mrs Fields Holdings, which in turn owns 50 per cent of the public company, will pay royalties of 5 per cent on annual sales of Mrs Fields products in converted stores and 6.5 per cent in unconverted stores.

Mrs Fields has an option to buy LPB under an option agreement expiring in 1996. Shares in Mrs Fields closed up 15p at 30.1p.

Mrs Fields has also arranged a 40-year licence agreement giving Riverview Software the right to develop and market ROI, a store information management system used and owned by Mrs Fields.

Baggeridge falls

The house-building recession took its toll on Baggeridge Brick, the West Midlands brick manufacturer, with the group reporting pre-tax profits down from £4.15 million to £2.58 million in the six months to end-March on turnover down from £19.4 million to £15.9 million. Earnings per share fell from 6.91p to 4.25p, but the interim dividend is maintained at 0.75p.

Farmers ahead

Associated Farmers, the agricultural business which came to the Third Market last year, lifted pre-tax profits from £36,000 to £47,000 in the year to end-November. Turnover climbed from £329,000 to £437,000. Earnings per share rose from 1.55p to 1.61p. There was an extraordinary profit of £183,000. There is no dividend.

Film division up

The Rank Organisation's film and television services division made trading profits of £38 million in 1989, a near-50 per cent increase. Turnover was 72 per cent higher at £351 million.

EC delay poses threat 'to recovery in Hungary'

From Wolfgang Münch, Budapest

HUNGARY'S new Prime Minister, Mr Jozsef Antall, has warned that his country's economic recovery would be jeopardized if the European Community continued to drag its feet over Hungarian membership of the EC.

His comments are an implicit criticism of M Jacques Delors, the EC Commission President, who recently said that no new members were likely to join the Community before the end of the decade.

Mr Antall, who takes office shortly, said he hoped Hungary would become a full member of the EC by 1995, and an associate member shortly after 1992. He added that Hungary would fully support moves towards political union.

Speaking at a parliamentary conference on economic reform in Europe, he said: "Europe itself is at a stage where she has to re-think her policies, to widen her borders and to consider how to integrate political democracies which do not have the same homogenous structure."

Mr Antall pledged to press ahead with a privatization programme that would aim to reduce the Hungarian state's share of property ownership from 90 per cent to about 25 per cent.

Advisers have been recruited from Britain.

Hungary will continue to repay its \$20 billion debt. However, Mr Antall said economic reform, although necessary, was not enough to achieve the desired results. Hungary needed more economic assistance to achieve a fast transition to a free-market economy.

About 1,100 joint ventures with Western companies have been formed - 50 per cent from West Germany, 29 per cent from Austria, and only 6 per cent from Britain.

M Michel Camdessus, director-general of the International Monetary Fund, said Western countries and institutions should open up their markets to Eastern European imports, facilitate the transfer of technology and help finance the modernization of Eastern Europe's infrastructure.

But he also urged Eastern European countries to adopt much tougher monetary measures. "It is not in the least irrelevant for central banks to be established, which are sufficiently independent to be able to enforce a monetary policy that will enable the market to function smoothly and be able to control the banking system," M Camdessus said.



Open markets plea: Michel Camdessus of the IMF

Leucadia makes 'final' 275p offer for Molins

By Colin Campbell

LEUCADIA has formally raised its takeover offer for Molins from 252p to 275p a share, and declared that the offer is "final" unless a competitive bidder appears.

The New York group had earlier sounded out institutional shareholders in the hope of securing indications that a 275p price would be acceptable and yesterday said it had bought 1.63 million Molins shares in the market - equivalent to 5.4 per cent - at 275p.

Under takeover rules, Leucadia was obliged to make a similar offer to other shareholders.

Molins shares climbed 6p to 275p, and the company's board have told shareholders not to accept a "totally inadequate" offer.

Leucadia now has 40.1 per cent of Molins, and said its offer remains open until 1pm on May 30.

Leucadia added that Molins' accusations of "covert manoeuvring" are completely unfounded.

Building slump forces Diploma below £9m

By Philip Pangalos

PRE-TAX profits at DIPLOMA, the electronic components and building supplies group that gave warning of poor trading conditions at the end of last year, slipped from £9.8 million to £8.9 million in the six months to end-March despite a rise in turnover from £68.7 million to £72.3 million.

Earnings per share fell from 11.2p to 9.8p, although the interim dividend is maintained at 2.25p.

Mr Christopher Thomas, the chairman, said that despite

a fall in profitability, the results may be viewed as reasonably satisfactory. He said two of the three core activities, particularly building supplies, are operating under difficult conditions.

Mr Thomas said he is reasonably optimistic about the outcome for the remainder of the year. Mr Patrick Wellington at County Nat-West is looking for pre-tax profits of £18.2 million (£19.5 million) for the full year. The shares rose 7p to 185p.

Shares in Japanese bank are suspended

Tokyo SHARES in the Long-Term Credit Bank of Japan were suspended yesterday after its share price surged by 10 per cent before its announcement of a proposed 10-for-1 share split.

The Tokyo Stock Exchange suspended trading in the morning.

The share price jumped from ¥19,500 to ¥21,500 (£84.90) on Tuesday in an unusually high turnover of 116,900 shares, about six times the average daily volume of the previous two weeks.

The decision by the Tokyo Stock Exchange to suspend the bank's shares was taken at its own discretion, a bank official said.

The bank informed the TSE of the proposed share split shortly before trading began yesterday, the official said.

The decision to suspend came 45 minutes after trading opened and was later upheld after the bank's directors approved the proposal at a board meeting shortly before noon.

The share split, announced after the close of trading, is to take effect on August 1.

Under the plan, which has to be approved at a shareholders' meeting, the face value of the stock will be reduced from ¥500 to ¥50, giving shareholders 10 new shares for every old share.

The TSE would not comment on the reports of an investigation.

An official said: "We have not said whether we are investigating the matter or not. As far as we are concerned, the company has made its announcement."

An official at the finance ministry's securities bureau said it was aware of the case, but had not yet received any notification from the TSE seeking its assistance in investigating the matter.

Long-Term Credit Bank is the second largest of Japan's three long-term credit banks, with more than \$50 billion in total assets.

Data fuel fears of US property crisis

From John Durie, New York

THE looming crisis in the US property sector has been underlined with the release of April figures showing the lowest level of new home starts since the 1982 recession.

The number of housing starts fell 5.8 per cent in April, after an 11.2 per cent fall in March and a 5.1 per cent decline in February.

The April figures work out at an annualized rate of 1.2 million homes being built this year, after 1.37 million last year and 1.5 million in 1988.

Combined with the average overcapacity of 20 per cent, the figures are expected to result in a cutback in bank lending to the housing sector.

Mr Alan Greenspan, the chairman of the Federal Reserve, and other bank regulators recently met US bank

chiefs to persuade them to maintain existing lending to avoid a credit crunch in the US.

However, there was better news on inflation, with the April figure showing a modest 0.2 per cent rise in the consumer prices index, bringing the year-on-year inflation rate down to 4.7 per cent, against a previous 5.3 per cent. For the first four months of this year, US inflation ran at an annualized rate of 6.8 per cent, well above Fed estimates of 4 to 4.5 per cent 1990 inflation.

The latter is a juggling act which Mr Greenspan is aiming to achieve this year, but expectations were that yesterday's Federal Open Market Committee meeting would leave the Federal Funds rate at about the 8.25 per cent level.

WORLD MARKET INDICES

Index	Value	Daily change (£)	Yearly change (£)	Daily change (¢)	Yearly change (¢)	Daily change (US\$)	Yearly change (US\$)
The World	736.2	0.0	-12.7	0.1	-8.1	-0.5	-9.2
(free)	140.8	0.0	-12.8	0.0	-8.2	-0.5	-9.3
EAPE	1297.8	-0.1	-16.7	0.0	-12.1	-0.6	-13.3
(free)	133.2	-0.1	-17.0	-0.2	-12.3	-0.6	-13.6
Europe	740.2	0.4	-2.7	0.2	-3.0	-0.1	1.2
(free)	159.1	0.4	-2.7	-0.1	-3.1	0.0	1.3
Nth America	512.7	0.2	-4.7	-0.3	-0.7	-0.2	-0.8
Norwic	1540.3	-0.3	-1.0	-0.7	-0.4	-0.8	3.0
(free)	243.5	-0.2	3.5	-0.6	3.9	-0.7	7.7
Pacific	2991.2	-0.5	-24.6	-0.2	-17.4	-1.0	-21.5
Far East	4343.4	-0.5	-24.9	-0.2	-17.7	-1.0	-21.9
Australia	296.0	-0.6	-14.8	-0.9	-8.4	-1.1	-11.3
Austria	1880.0	-0.3	26.5	-0.7	28.1	-0.8	31.7
Belgium	921.9	0.6	-6.4	0.0	-5.8	0.1	-2.5
Canada	501.4	-0.4	-16.5	-1.3	-11.8	-0.9	-13.1
Denmark	1310.3	0.4	-0.5	0.0	-1.0	-0.1	3.6
Finland	97.1	0.3	-15.8	0.0	-15.6	-0.2	-12.3
(free)	140.4	-0.2	-5.8	-0.5	-5.6	-0.6	-1.9
France	826.9	0.4	2.3	0.0	2.1	-0.1	6.4
Germany	941.2	0.4	2.6	-0.1	3.8	-0.1	8.7
Hong Kong	2241.0	-0.2	1.0	-0.7	4.9	-0.7	5.1
Italy	389.6	0.6	1.1	0.2	0.5	0.1	5.2
Japan	4581.5	-0.5	-25.7	-0.1	-16.3	-1.0	-22.7
Netherlands	893.3	0.7	-5.5	0.3	-4.8	0.2	-1.7
New Zealand	85.5	-0.4	-17.0	-1.1	-10.5	-0.9	-13.6
Norway	1585.6	0.0	18.1	-0.3	19.4	-0.5	22.9
(free)	275.8	-0.1	18.1	-0.4	19.3	-0.6	22.9
Sing/Malay	1923.0	-0.5	-3.6	-0.7	-2.1	-0.9	0.3
Spain	224.7	0.5	-3.1	0.1	-7.0	0.0	-1.2
Sweden	1703.5	-0.8	-2.9	-1.1	-1.9	-1.2	1.1
(free)	245.7	-0.8	1.5	-1.2	2.5	-1.3	5.6
Switzerland	853.6	0.2	2.1	0.3	3.4	-0.2	6.2
(free)	141.6	0.2	1.5	0.2	4.0	-0.3	5.5
UK	658.6	0.5	-8.7	0.5	-8.7	0.1	-4.9
USA	465.4	0.3	-3.7	-0.2	0.2	-0.2	0.2

(£) Local currency.

Source: Morgan Stanley Capital International.

RECENT ISSUES

EQUITIES	
ABI Leisure (125p)	115 +2
ADG Group (14p)	17
Abnott New Euro (100p)	97 +2
Amercoeur	125
Argos Plc	195 +2
Beta Global Emarg (100p)	91 +1
Bioplen Hides	22 +1
Buckingham Nw	82 -1
Catell May Nw (55p)	56
Castle Calm (50p)	45
Courtside Textiles	259 +2
Dakota Gp Nw	41 -1
Dartmoor Inv Tst (100p)	56 +1
F&C German	124
First Ireland (100p)	50 +1
Flaming Euro IT	57 +1
French Prop Tst	53
German IT	51
Henderson Highland (100p)	35
Invergoron	133
Malaysia Capital	58 +1
Mira Currie Euro (100p)	116 +1
Midland Radio	133 +1
Novatel (100p)	105 +2
Nth Investors	203
OS Hides (100p)	108
Siam Select (100p)	98
Torday & Carlisle (155p)	148 +3
Venturi Inv Tst	10
Wiltshire Brew (70p)	61
See main listing for Water shares	
RIGHTS ISSUES	
ASB Barnett N/P	6
Aid Irish N/P	45
Amercoeur N/P	5
Clinton Cards N/P	11 -5
Harrison N/P	12 -2
Jupiter N/P	1
Mid & Scot N/P	3 -3
PWS Hides N/P	10
Parbes N/P	35 -2
(Issue price in brackets).	

THE STOCKWATCH

● The Stockwatch service gives readers instant telephone access to the prices of more than 13,000 shares, unit trusts and bonds.

● The information can be obtained on the following telephone numbers:

● Stock market comment 0898 121220.

● Company news: 0898 121221.

● The prices of shares that are actively trading in the stock market: 0898 121225.

● The calls are charged at 38p per minute during peak times and 25p per minute during standard times.

● All telephone charges are inclusive of VAT.

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LONDON & ASSOCIATED INVESTMENT TRUST PLC

Year to 31 December 1989

Highlights from Annual Review of Chairman, Michael Heller

- Shareholders' funds have increased to £21 million. The prime objective in the management of the Group is to achieve capital growth
- Net asset value per share 50.6p (37.1p)
- Pre-tax profits have increased to £841,000 - as before there are no property dealing profits and all interest charges have been written off to Profit & Loss Account - all borrowings are very long term at fixed rates of interest
- Current annual rental income from the shop portfolio is approaching £3 million - the Group has more than 350 shops, 70% of which are freehold and the balance long leasehold
- Dividend increased by 15%
- Bisichi Mining PLC (38% owned associate) shareholders' funds are now in excess of £5 million - has increased its direct gold mining investments in South Africa and now owns 40% of South Murchison Consolidated Mines Ltd, which is listed on the South African Stock Exchange - also participates in direct gold mining in Western Australia and Utah (USA)

If you would like a copy of the 1989 Accounts for London & Associated Investment Trust PLC and Bisichi Mining PLC which will shortly be circulated to shareholders, please write to:

LONDON ASSOCIATED INVESTMENT TRUST PLC

The Company Secretary (ref: TT)
London & Associated Investment Trust PLC
and/or Bisichi Mining PLC
30-34 New Bridge Street
London EC4V 6LT

NESTLÉ S.A.

Notice to shareholders and holders of participation certificates

Nestlé S.A., Cham and Vevey (Switzerland)

Withdrawal of the proposed capital increase

The proposals of the Board of Directors concerning items 5 and 6 of the agenda of the General Meeting of May 31, 1990, stated that the capital increase proposed under item 5 of the agenda was subject to the stock market conditions being favourable.

This capital increase from Fr. 346 500 000.- to Fr. 364 875 000.-, by means of a rights issue with a ratio of one new registered share for every twenty existing shares or one hundred participation certificates, respectively, was destined to further improve the financial structure of the company and to meet possible future needs.

In the meantime, the stock market situation has deteriorated to a point where this capital increase is no longer justified. The Board therefore deems it appropriate to withdraw its proposal regarding the capital increase and has modified the agenda for the General Meeting of May 31, 1990, accordingly: item 5 (capital increase) and the amendment of article 5 of the articles of association under item 6 of the agenda are being deleted.

Cham and Vevey, May 7, 1990

The Board of Directors

THREE MONTHS' REVIEW

ASSURANCE

Pre-tax loss £25.6m due to exceptional storms

- The two major storms affecting the United Kingdom and Continental Europe cost £55m and gave rise to a pre-tax loss of £25.6m (1989 profit £45.1m).
- Good growth in life profits to £26.0m (1989 £21.1m).
- Non-life markets remain competitive.
- Shareholders' funds £1,572m with net assets per share of 368p.

HIGHLIGHTS		
	3 months 1990 Unaudited	3 months 1989 Unaudited
Total premium income	£1,050.9m	£901.8m
Operating result before taxation	(£25.6m)	£45.1m
Operating result after taxation	(£20.0m)	£25.9m
Earnings per share	(4.7p)	6.1p

Commercial Union Assurance Company plc

السؤال الأول



"I wouldn't bank with Girobank if you paid me."

(We will, 9% on our Keyway current account.)

A pound is a pound is a pound.
Unless it's in Girobank's new Keyway account.
Then it could be a pound and nine pence.
At 9%, we pay 2.75% more than the Abbey
National's Current Account.
3% more than NatWest's Current Plus.
2% more than the highest rate on Lloyds'
Classic account.

And, unlike some of our rivals, we pay our
highest rate on every pound in your current
account.

But, of course, there's more to banking than
interest rates alone.

Our Keyway account also offers you a £100
cheque guarantee card.

A guaranteed overdraft of up to 50% of your
salary.*

A cash card that gives you access to £250 a
day and over 4,000 Link cash machines across
the country.

A Visa card for which there is no fee.
And there are no bank charges, even if you
slip into the red by up to £20.

So where's your nearest branch?
There isn't one.

You deal with us on the telephone. You can
check your account, set up an overdraft, or even
discuss a mortgage, over the phone.

Anything that needs to be signed, we'll send
directly to you and any cheques you need to pay
in, you send to us. (We even supply you with
prepaid envelopes.)

It is, we admit, a far cry from the traditional
method of banking.

There are no queues. No wasted lunch hours.
And we're open until 8.00 at night and midday
on Saturdays.

So bear our Keyway account in mind next
time you're asked to pay a whole month's charges
for slipping £10 into the red. Or are refused an

overdraft. Or find your bank closed. Or work out
the interest you might have earned.

When you do open a Keyway account, you
don't have to close your existing bank account
straight away, just judge us against it.

We think you might find that it pays to bank
with Girobank.

For an information pack, simply return the
coupon. Or, better still, pick up the phone and
call us free on 0800 444 224.

To: Keyway Information Centre, PO Box 46, Stratford-upon-Avon,
Warwickshire CV37 0TU. I am over 18. I am/am not a Girobank
Current Account Customer. 1/11/10

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/Title _____ Initials _____
(DELETE AS APPROPRIATE)

Surname _____ (BLOCK CAPITALS PLEASE)

Address _____

Postcode _____ Phone/STD _____

Girobank

You'll have the last laugh.

الجمعة 15 مايو 1990

Portfolio

From your Portfolio Platinum card check your eight share price movements on this page only. Add them up to give you your overall total and check this against the daily dividend figure. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the daily prize money. If you win, follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. Always have your card available when claiming. Game rules appear on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Group	Gain or Loss
1	Polly Peck (nt)	Food	
2	Klenbert (nt)	Bank/Discount	
3	Waterbury	Property	
4	Wentworth	Food	
5	Wentworth	Food	
6	Wentworth	Food	
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37	Wentworth	Food	
38	Wentworth	Food	
39	Wentworth	Food	
40	Wentworth	Food	
41	Wentworth	Food	
42	Wentworth	Food	
43	Wentworth	Food	
44	Wentworth	Food	

Weekly Dividend						
Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £4.00 in Saturday's newspaper.						
MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	TOTAL

The £2,000 Portfolio Platinum prize was won yesterday by Mr. George Wood, of Stoke Poges, Buckinghamshire.

BRITISH FUNDS

1989 High Low Share Price Change

SHORTS (Under Five Years)	1989 High	1989 Low	Share	Price	Change
1	100.00	95.00	100	97.50	+2.50
2	100.00	95.00	100	97.50	+2.50
3	100.00	95.00	100	97.50	+2.50
4	100.00	95.00	100	97.50	+2.50
5	100.00	95.00	100	97.50	+2.50
6	100.00	95.00	100	97.50	+2.50
7	100.00	95.00	100	97.50	+2.50
8	100.00	95.00	100	97.50	+2.50
9	100.00	95.00	100	97.50	+2.50
10	100.00	95.00	100	97.50	+2.50
11	100.00	95.00	100	97.50	+2.50
12	100.00	95.00	100	97.50	+2.50
13	100.00	95.00	100	97.50	+2.50
14	100.00	95.00	100	97.50	+2.50
15	100.00	95.00	100	97.50	+2.50
16	100.00	95.00	100	97.50	+2.50
17	100.00	95.00	100	97.50	+2.50
18	100.00	95.00	100	97.50	+2.50
19	100.00	95.00	100	97.50	+2.50
20	100.00	95.00	100	97.50	+2.50
21	100.00	95.00	100	97.50	+2.50
22	100.00	95.00	100	97.50	+2.50
23	100.00	95.00	100	97.50	+2.50
24	100.00	95.00	100	97.50	+2.50
25	100.00	95.00	100	97.50	+2.50
26	100.00	95.00	100	97.50	+2.50
27	100.00	95.00	100	97.50	+2.50
28	100.00	95.00	100	97.50	+2.50
29	100.00	95.00	100	97.50	+2.50
30	100.00	95.00	100	97.50	+2.50
31	100.00	95.00	100	97.50	+2.50
32	100.00	95.00	100	97.50	+2.50
33	100.00	95.00	100	97.50	+2.50
34	100.00	95.00	100	97.50	+2.50
35	100.00	95.00	100	97.50	+2.50
36	100.00	95.00	100	97.50	+2.50
37	100.00	95.00	100	97.50	+2.50
38	100.00	95.00	100	97.50	+2.50
39	100.00	95.00	100	97.50	+2.50
40	100.00	95.00	100	97.50	+2.50
41	100.00	95.00	100	97.50	+2.50
42	100.00	95.00	100	97.50	+2.50
43	100.00	95.00	100	97.50	+2.50
44	100.00	95.00	100	97.50	+2.50
45	100.00	95.00	100	97.50	+2.50
46	100.00	95.00	100	97.50	+2.50
47	100.00	95.00	100	97.50	+2.50
48	100.00	95.00	100	97.50	+2.50
49	100.00	95.00	100	97.50	+2.50
50	100.00	95.00	100	97.50	+2.50

FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

100%	95%	90%	85%	80%	75%	70%	65%	60%	55%	50%	45%	40%	35%	30%	25%	20%	15%	10%	5%	0%	-5%	-10%	-15%	-20%	-25%	-30%	-35%	-40%	-45%	-50%	-55%	-60%	-65%	-70%	-75%	-80%	-85%	-90%	-95%	-100%	-105%	-110%	-115%	-120%	-125%	-130%	-135%	-140%	-145%	-150%	-155%	-160%	-165%	-170%	-175%	-180%	-185%	-190%	-195%	-200%	-205%	-210%	-215%	-220%	-225%	-230%	-235%	-240%	-245%	-250%	-255%	-260%	-265%	-270%	-275%	-280%	-285%	-290%	-295%	-300%	-305%	-310%	-315%	-320%	-325%	-330%	-335%	-340%	-345%	-350%	-355%	-360%	-365%	-370%	-375%	-380%	-385%	-390%	-395%	-400%	-405%	-410%	-415%	-420%	-425%	-430%	-435%	-440%	-445%	-450%	-455%	-460%	-465%	-470%	-475%	-480%	-485%	-490%	-495%	-500%	-505%	-510%	-515%	-520%	-525%	-530%	-535%	-540%	-545%	-550%	-555%	-560%	-565%	-570%	-575%	-580%	-585%	-590%	-595%	-600%	-605%	-610%	-615%	-620%	-625%	-630%	-635%	-640%	-645%	-650%	-655%	-660%	-665%	-670%	-675%	-680%	-685%	-690%	-695%	-700%	-705%	-710%	-715%	-720%	-725%	-730%	-735%	-740%	-745%	-750%	-755%	-760%	-765%	-770%	-775%	-780%	-785%	-790%	-795%	-800%	-805%	-810%	-815%	-820%	-825%	-830%	-835%	-840%	-845%	-850%	-855%	-860%	-865%	-870%	-875%	-880%	-885%	-890%	-895%	-900%	-905%	-910%	-915%	-920%	-925%	-930%	-935%	-940%	-945%	-950%	-955%	-960%	-965%	-970%	-975%	-980%	-985%	-990%	-995%	-1000%
100%	95%	90%	85%	80%	75%	70%	65%	60%	55%	50%	45%	40%	35%	30%	25%	20%	15%	10%	5%	0%	-5%	-10%	-15%	-20%	-25%	-30%	-35%	-40%	-45%	-50%	-55%	-60%	-65%	-70%	-75%	-80%	-85%	-90%	-95%	-100%	-105%	-110%	-115%	-120%	-125%	-130%	-135%	-140%	-145%	-150%	-155%	-160%	-165%	-170%	-175%	-180%	-185%	-190%	-195%	-200%	-205%	-210%	-215%	-220%	-225%	-230%	-235%	-240%	-245%	-250%	-255%	-260%	-265%	-270%	-275%	-280%	-285%	-290%	-295%	-300%	-305%	-310%	-315%	-320%	-325%	-330%	-335%	-340%	-345%	-350%	-355%	-360%	-365%	-370%	-375%	-380%	-385%	-390%	-395%	-400%	-405%	-410%	-415%	-420%	-425%	-430%	-435%	-440%	-445%	-450%	-455%	-460%	-465%	-470%	-475%	-480%	-485%	-490%	-495%	-500%	-505%	-510%	-515%	-520%	-525%	-530%	-535%	-540%	-545%	-550%	-555%	-560%	-565%	-570%	-575%	-580%	-585%	-590%	-595%	-600%	-605%	-610%	-615%	-620%	-625%	-630%	-635%	-640%	-645%	-650%	-655%	-660%	-665%	-670%	-675%	-680%	-685%	-690%	-695%	-700%	-705%	-710%	-715%	-720%	-725%	-730%	-735%	-740%	-745%	-750%	-755%	-760%	-765%	-770%	-775%	-780%	-785%	-790%	-795%	-800%	-805%	-810%	-815%	-820%	-825%	-830%	-835%	-840%	-845%	-850%	-855%	-860%	-865%	-870%	-875%	-880%	-885%	-890%	-895%	-900%	-905%	-910%	-915%	-920%	-925%	-930%	-935%	-940%	-945%	-950%	-955%	-960%	-965%	-970%	-975%	-980%	-985%	-990%	-995%	-1000%
100%	95%	90%	85%	80%	75%	70%	65%	60%	55%	50%	45%	40%	35%	30%	25%	20%	15%	10%	5%	0%	-5%	-10%	-15%	-20%	-25%	-30%	-35%	-40%	-45%	-50%	-55%	-60%	-65%	-70%	-75%	-80%	-85%	-90%	-95%	-100%	-105%	-110%	-115%	-120%	-125%	-130%	-135%	-140%	-145%	-150%	-155%	-160%	-165%	-170%	-175%	-180%	-185%	-190%	-195%	-200%	-205%	-210%	-215%	-220%	-225%	-230%	-235%	-240%	-245%	-250%	-255%	-260%	-265%	-270%	-275%	-280%	-285%	-290%	-295%	-300%	-305%	-310%	-315%	-320%	-325%	-330%	-335%	-340%	-345%	-350%	-355%	-360%	-365%	-370%	-375%	-380%	-385%	-390%	-395%	-400%	-405%	-410%	-415%	-420%	-425%	-430%	-435%	-440%	-445%	-450%	-455%	-460%	-465%	-470%	-475%	-480%	-485%	-490%	-495%	-500%	-505%	-510%	-515%	-520%	-525%	-530%	-535%	-540%	-545%	-550%	-555%	-560%	-565%	-570%	-575%	-580%	-585%	-590%	-595%	-600%	-605%	-610%	-615%	-620%	-625%	-630%	-635%	-640%	-645%	-650%	-655%	-660%	-665%	-670%	-675%	-680%	-685%	-690%	-695%	-700%	-705%	-710%	-715%	-720%	-725%	-730%	-735%	-740%	-745%	-750%	-755%	-760%	-765%	-770%	-775%	-780%	-785%	-790%	-795%	-800%	-805%	-810%	-815%	-820%	-825%	-830%	-835%	-840%	-845%	-850%	-855%	-860%	-865%	-870%	-875%	-880%	-885%	-890%	-895%	-900%	-905%	-910%	-915%	-920%	-925%	-930%	-935%	-940%	-945%	-950%	-955%	-960%	-965%	-970%	-975%	-980%	-985%	-990%	-995%	-1000%
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100%	95%	90%	85%	80%	75%	70%	65%	60%	55%	50%	45%	40%	35%	30%	25%	20%	15%	10%	5%	0%	-5%	-10%	-15%	-20%	-25%	-30%	-35%	-40%	-45%	-50%	-55%	-60%	-65%	-70%	-75%	-80%	-85%	-90%	-95%	-100%	-105%	-110%	-115%	-120%	-125%	-130%	-135%	-140%	-145%	-150%	-155%	-160%	-165%	-170%	-175%	-180%	-185%	-190%	-195%	-200%	-205%	-210%	-215%	-220%	-225%	-230%	-235%	-240%	-245%	-250%	-255%	-260%	-265%	-270%	-275%	-280%	-285%	-290%	-295%	-300%	-305%	-310%	-315%	-320%	-325%	-330%	-335%	-340%	-345%	-350%	-355%	-360%	-365%	-370%	-375%	-380%	-385%	-390%	-395%	-400%	-405%	-410%	-415%	-420%	-425%	-430%	-435%	-440%	-445%	-450%	-455%	-460%	-465%	-470%	-475%	-480%	-485%	-490%	-495%	-500%	-505%	-510%	-515%	-520%	-525%	-530%	-535%	-540%	-545%	-550%	-555%	-560%	-565%	-570%	-575%	-580%	-585%	-590%	-595%	-600%	-605%	-610%	-615%	-620%	-625%	-630%	-635%	-640%	-645%	-650%	-655%	-660%	-665%	-670%	-675%	-680%	-685%	-690%	-695%	-700%	-705%	-710%	-715%	-720%	-725%	-730%	-735%	-740%	-745%	-750%	-755%	-760%	-765%	-770%	-775%	-780%	-785%	-790%	-795%	-800%	-805%	-810%	-815%	-820%	-825%	-830%	-835%	-840%	-845%	-850%	-855%	-860%	-865%	-870%	-875%	-880%	-885%	-890%	-895%	-900%	-905%	-910%	-915%	-920%	-925%	-930%	-935%	-940%	-945%	-950%	-955%	-960%	-965%	-970%	-975%	-980%	-985%	-990%	-995%	-1000%
100%	95%	90%	85%	80%	75%	70%	65%	60%	55%	50%	45%	40%	35%	30%	25%	20%	15%	10%	5%	0%	-5%	-10%	-15%	-20%	-25%	-30%	-35%	-40%	-45%	-50%	-55%	-60%	-65%	-70%	-75%	-80%	-85%	-90%	-95%	-100%	-105%	-110%	-115%	-120%	-125%	-130%	-135%	-140%	-145%	-150%	-155%	-160%	-165%	-170%	-175%	-180%	-185%	-190%	-195%	-200%	-205%	-210%	-215%	-220%	-225%	-230%	-235%	-240%	-245%	-250%	-255%	-260%	-265%	-270%	-275%	-280%	-285%	-290%	-295%	-300%	-305%	-310%	-315%	-320%	-325%	-330%	-335%	-340%	-345%	-350%	-355%	-360%	-365%	-370%	-375%	-380%	-385%	-390%	-395%	-400%	-405%	-410%	-415%	-420%	-425%	-430%	-435%	-440%	-445%	-450%	-455%	-460%	-465%	-470%	-475%	-480%	-485%	-490%	-495%	-500%	-505%	-510%	-515%	-520%	-525%	-530%	-535%	-540%	-545%	-550%	-555%	-560%	-565%	-570%	-575%	-580%	-585%	-590%	-595%	-600%	-605%	-610%	-615%	-620%	-625%	-630%	-635%	-640%	-645%	-650%	-655%	-660%	-665%	-670%	-675%	-680%	-685%	-690%	-695%	-700%	-705%	-710%	-715%	-720%	-725%	-730%	-735%	-740%	-745%	-750%	-755%	-760%	-765%	-770%	-775%	-780%	-785%	-790%	-795%	-800%	-805%	-810%	-815%	-820%	-825%	-830%	-835%	-840%	-845%	-850%	-855%	-860%	-865%	-870%	-875%	-880%	-885%	-890%	-895%	-900%	-905%	-910%	-915%	-920%	-925%	-930%	-935%	-940%	-945%	-950%	-955%	-960%	-965%	-970%	-975%	-980%	-985%	-990%	-995%	-1000%
100%	95%	90%	85%	80%	75%	70%	65%	60%	55%	50%	45%	40%	35%	30%	25%	20%	15%	10%	5%	0%	-5%	-10%	-15%	-20%	-25%	-30%	-35%	-40%	-45%	-50%	-55%	-60%	-65%	-70%	-75%	-80%	-85%																																																																																																																																																																																							

OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

100.00	95.00	90.00	85.00	80.00	75.00	70.00	65.00	60.00	55.00	50.00	45.00	40.00	35.00	30.00	25.00	20.00	15.00	10.00	5.00	0.00	-5.00	-10.00	-15.00	-20.00	-25.00	-30.00	-35.00	-40.00	-45.00	-50.00	-55.00	-60.00	-65.00	-70.00	-75.00	-80.00	-85.00	-90.00	-95.00	-100.00	-105.00	-110.00	-115.00	-120.00	-125.00	-130.00	-135.00	-140.00	-145.00	-150.00	-155.00	-160.00	-165.00	-170.00	-175.00	-180.00	-185.00	-190.00	-195.00	-200.00	-205.00	-210.00	-215.00	-220.00	-225.00	-230.00	-235.00	-240.00	-245.00	-250.00	-255.00	-260.00	-265.00	-270.00	-275.00	-280.00	-285.00	-290.00	-295.00	-300.00	-305.00	-310.00	-315.00	-320.00	-325.00	-330.00	-335.00	-340.00	-345.00	-350.00	-355.00	-360.00	-365.00	-370.00	-375.00	-380.00	-385.00	-390.00	-395.00	-400.00	-405.00	-410.00	-415.00	-420.00	-425.00	-430.00	-435.00	-440.00	-445.00	-450.00	-455.00	-460.00	-465.00	-470.00	-475.00	-480.00	-485.00	-490.00	-495.00	-500.00	-505.00	-510.00	-515.00	-520.00	-525.00	-530.00	-535.00	-540.00	-545.00	-550.00	-555.00	-560.00	-565.00	-570.00	-575.00	-580.00	-585.00	-590.00	-595.00	-600.00	-605.00	-610.00	-615.00	-620.00	-625.00	-630.00	-635.00	-640.00	-645.00	-650.00	-655.00	-660.00	-665.00	-670.00	-675.00	-680.00	-685.00	-690.00	-695.00	-700.00	-705.00	-710.00	-715.00	-720.00	-725.00	-730.00	-735.00	-740.00	-745.00	-750.00	-755.00	-760.00	-765.00	-770.00	-775.00	-780.00	-785.00	-790.00	-795.00	-800.00	-805.00	-810.00	-815.00	-820.00	-825.00	-830.00	-835.00	-840.00	-845.00	-850.00	-855.00	-860.00	-865.00	-870.00	-875.00	-880.00	-885.00	-890.00	-895.00	-900.00	-905.00	-910.00	-915.00	-920.00	-925.00	-930.00	-935.00	-940.00	-945.00	-950.00	-955.00	-960.00	-965.00	-970.00	-975.00	-980.00	-985.00	-990.00	-995.00	-1000.00
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UNDATED

	1998	Low	Company	Est	Paid
High	198	173	Abbey National (n)	183	205
200	173	165	Abbey National (n)	183	205
205	165	157	Anglo Gr	187	209
210	157	149	Amersbach (Hawley)	200	234
215	149	141	Anglo West 2	200	234
220	141	133	Barclays	226	246
225	133	125	Bank of Montreal	235	262
230	125	117	Bank, Lauro Invest	235	262
235	117	109	Bank of Montreal	235	262
240	109	101	Bank of Scotland	211	237
245	101	93	Bank of Wales	211	237
250	93	85	Barclays 120	211	237
255	85	77	Bank of Wales	211	237
260	77	69	Barclays 120	211	237
265	69	61	Barclays 120	211	237
270	61	53	Barclays 120	211	237
275	53	45	Barclays 120	211	237
280	45	37	Barclays 120	211	237
285	37	29	Barclays 120	211	237
290	29	21	Barclays 120	211	237
295	21	13	Barclays 120	211	237
300	13	5	Barclays 120	211	237
305	5	-3	Barclays 120	211	237
310	-3	-11	Barclays 120	211	237
315	-11	-19	Barclays 120	211	237
320	-19	-27	Barclays 120	211	237
325	-27	-35	Barclays 120	211	237
330	-35	-43	Barclays 120	211	237
335	-43	-51	Barclays 120	211	237
340	-51	-59	Barclays 120	211	237
345	-59	-67	Barclays 120	211	237
350	-67	-75	Barclays 120	211	237
355	-75	-83	Barclays 120	211	237
360	-83	-91	Barclays 120	211	237
365	-91	-99	Barclays 120	211	237
370	-99	-107	Barclays 120	211	237
375	-107	-115	Barclays 120	211	237
380	-115	-123	Barclays 120	211	237
385	-123	-131	Barclays 120	211	237
390	-131	-139	Barclays 120	211	237
395	-139	-147	Barclays 120	211	237
400	-147	-155	Barclays 120	211	237
405	-155	-163	Barclays 120	211	237
410	-163	-171	Barclays 120	211	237
415	-171	-179	Barclays 120	211	237
420	-179	-187	Barclays 120	211	237
425	-187	-195	Barclays 120	211	237
430	-195	-203	Barclays 120	211	237
435	-203	-211	Barclays 120	211	237
440	-211	-219	Barclays 120	211	237
445	-219	-227	Barclays 120	211	237
450	-227	-235	Barclays 120	211	237
455	-235	-243	Barclays 120	211	237
460	-243	-251	Barclays 120	211	237
465	-251	-259	Barclays 120	211	237
470	-259	-267	Barclays 120	211	237
475	-267	-275	Barclays 120	211	237
480	-275	-283	Barclays 120	211	237
485	-283	-291	Barclays 120	211	237
490	-291	-299	Barclays 120	211	237
495	-299	-307	Barclays 120	211	237
500	-307	-315	Barclays 120	211	237
505	-315	-323	Barclays 120	211	237
510	-323	-331	Barclays 120	211	237
515	-331	-339	Barclays 120	211	237
520	-339	-347	Barclays 120	211	237
525	-347	-355	Barclays 120	211	237
530	-355	-363	Barclays 120	211	237
535	-363	-371	Barclays 120	211	237
540	-371	-379	Barclays 120	211	237
545	-379	-387	Barclays 120	211	237
550	-387	-395	Barclays 120	211	237
555	-395	-403	Barclays 120	211	237
560	-403	-411	Barclays 120	211	237
565	-411	-419	Barclays 120	211	237
570	-419	-427	Barclays 120	211	237
575	-427	-435	Barclays 120	211	237
580	-435	-443	Barclays 120	211	237
585	-443	-451	Barclays 120	211	237
590	-451	-459	Barclays 120	211	237
595	-459	-467	Barclays 120	211	237
600	-467	-475	Barclays 120	211	237
605	-475	-483	Barclays 120	211	237
610	-483	-491	Barclays 120	211	237
615	-491	-499	Barclays 120	211	237
620	-499	-507	Barclays 120	211	237
625	-507	-515	Barclays 120	211	237
630	-515	-523	Barclays 120	211	237
635	-523	-531	Barclays 120	211	237
640	-531	-539	Barclays 120	211	237
645	-539	-547	Barclays 120	211	237
650	-547	-555	Barclays 120	211	237
655	-555	-563	Barclays 120	211	237
660	-563	-571	Barclays 120	211	237
665	-571	-579	Barclays 120	211	237
670	-579	-587	Barclays 120	211	237
675	-587	-595	Barclays 120	211	237
680	-595	-603	Barclays 120	211	237
685	-603	-611	Barclays 120	211	237
690	-611	-619	Barclays 120	211	237
695	-619	-627	Barclays 120	211	237
700	-627	-635	Barclays 120	211	237
705	-635	-643	Barclays 120	211	237
710	-643	-651	Barclays 120	211	237
715	-651	-659	Barclays 120	211	237
720	-659	-667	Barclays 120	211	237
725	-667	-675	Barclays 120	211	237
730	-675	-683	Barclays 120	211	237
735	-683	-691	Barclays 120	211	237
740	-691	-699	Barclays 120	211	237
745	-699	-707	Barclays 120	211	237
750	-707	-715	Barclays 120	211	237
755	-715	-723	Barclays 120	211	237
760	-723	-731	Barclays 120	211	237
765	-731	-739	Barclays 120	211	237
770	-739	-747	Barclays 120	211	237
775	-747	-755	Barclays 120	211	237
780	-755	-763	Barclays 120	211	237
785	-763	-771	Barclays 120	211	237
790	-771	-779	Barclays 120	211	237
795	-779	-787	Barclays 120	211	237
800	-787	-795	Barclays 120	211	237
805	-795	-803	Barclays 120	211	237
810	-803	-811	Barclays 120	211	237
815	-811	-819	Barclays 120	211	237
820	-819	-827	Barclays 120	211	237
825	-827	-835	Barclays 120	211	237
830	-835	-843	Barclays 120	211	237
835	-843	-851	Barclays 120	211	237
840	-851	-859	Barclays 120	211	237
845	-859	-867	Barclays 120	211	237
850	-867	-875	Barclays 120	211	237
855	-875	-883	Barclays 120	211	237
860	-883	-891	Barclays 120	211	237
865	-891	-899	Barclays 120	211	237
870	-899	-907	Barclays 120	211	237
875	-907	-915	Barclays 120	211	237
880	-915	-923	Barclays 120	211	237
885	-923	-931	Barclays 120	211	237
890	-931	-939	Barclays 120	211	237
895	-939	-947	Barclays 120	211	237
900	-947	-955	Barclays 120	211	237
905	-955	-963	Barclays 120	211	237
910	-963	-971	Barclays 120	211	237
915	-971	-979	Barclays 120	211	237
920	-979	-987	Barclays 120	211	237
925	-987	-995	Barclays 120	211	237
930	-995	-1003	Barclays 120	211	237
935	-1003	-1011	Barclays 120	211	237
940	-1011	-1019	Barclays 120	211	237
945	-1019	-1027	Barclays 120	211	237
950	-1027	-1035	Barclays 120	211	237
955	-1035	-1043	Barclays 120	211	237
960	-1043	-1051	Barclays 120	211	237
965	-1051	-1059	Barclays 120	211	237
970	-1059	-1067	Barclays 120	211	237
975	-1067	-1075	Barclays 120	211	237
980	-1075	-1083	Barclays 120	211	237
985	-1083	-1091	Barclays 120	211	237
990	-1091	-1099	Barclays 120	211	237
995	-1099	-1107	Barclays 120	211	237
1000	-1107	-1115	Barclays 120	211	237

[illegible][illegible]

194	195	196	197	198	199	200	201	202	203	204	205	206	207	208	209	210	211	212	213	214	215	216	217	218	219	220	221	222	223	224	225	226	227	228	229	230	231	232	233	234	235	236	237	238	239	240	241	242	243	244	245	246	247	248	249	250	251	252	253	254	255	256	257	258	259	260	261	262	263	264	265	266	267	268	269	270	271	272	273	274	275	276	277	278	279	280	281	282	283	284	285	286	287	288	289	290	291	292	293	294	295	296	297	298	299	300	301	302	303	304	305	306	307	308	309	310	311	312	313	314	315	316	317	318	319	320	321	322	323	324	325	326	327	328	329	330	331	332	333	334	335	336	337	338	339	340	341	342	343	344	345	346	347	348	349	350	351	352	353	354	355	356	357	358	359	360	361	362	363	364	365	366	367	368	369	370	371	372	373	374	375	376	377	378	379	380	381	382	383	384	385	386	387	388	389	390	391	392	393	394	395	396	397	398	399	400	401	402	403	404	405	406	407	408	409	410	411	412	413	414	415	416	417	418	419	420	421	422	423	424	425	426	427	428	429	430	431	432	433	434	435	436	437	438	439	440	441	442	443	444	445	446	447	448	449	450	451	452	453	454	455	456	457	458	459	460	461	462	463	464	465	466	467	468	469	470	471	472	473	474	475	476	477	478	479	480	481	482	483	484	485	486	487	488	489	490	491	492	493	494	495	496	497	498	499	500	501	502	503	504	505	506	507	508	509	510	511	512	513	514	515	516	517	518	519	520	521	522	523	524	525	526	527	528	529	530	531	532	533	534	535	536	537	538	539	540	541	542	543	544	545	546	547	548	549	550	551	552	553	554	555	556	557	558	559	560	561	562	563	564	565	566	567	568	569	570	571	572	573	574	575	576	577	578	579	580	581	582	583	584	585	586	587	588	589	590	591	592	593	594	595	596	597	598	599	600	601	602	603	604	605	606	607	608	609	610	611	612	613	614	615	616	617	618	619	620	621	622	623	624	625	626	627	628	629	630	631	632	633	634	635	636	637	638	639	640	641	642	643	644	645	646	647	648	649	650	651	652	653	654	655	656	657	658	659	660	661	662	663	664	665	666	667	668	669	670	671	672	673	674	675	676	677	678	679	680	681	682	683	684	685	686	687	688	689	690	691	692	693	694	695	696	697	698	699	700	701	702	703	704	705	706	707	708	709	710	711	712	713	714	715	716	717	718	719	720	721	722	723	724	725	726	727	728	729	730	731	732	733	734	735	736	737	738	739	740	741	742	743	744	745	746	747	748	749	750	751	752	753	754	755	756	757	758	759	760	761	762	763	764	765	766	767	768	769	770	771	772	773	774	775	776	777	778	779	780	781	782	783	784	785	786	787	788	789	790	791	792	793	794	795	796	797	798	799	800	801	802	803	804	805	806	807	808	809	810	811	812	813	814	815	816	817	818	819	820	821	822	823	824	825	826	827	828	829	830	831	832	833	834	835	836	837	838	839	840	841	842	843	844	845	846	847	848	849	850	851	852	853	854	855	856	857	858	859	860	861	862	863	864	865	866	867	868	869	870	871	872	873	874	875	876	877	878	879	880	881	882	883	884	885	886	887	888	889	890	891	892	893	894	895	896	897	898	899	900	901	902	903	904	905	906	907	908	909	910	911	912	913	914	915	916	917	918	919	920	921	922	923	924	925	926	927	928	929	930	931	932	933	934	935	936	937	938	939	940	941	942	943	944	945	946	947	948	949	950	951	952	953	954	955	956	957	958	959	960	961	962	963	964	965	966	967	968	969	970	971	972	973	974	975	976	977	978	979	980	981	982	983	984	985	986	987	988	989	990	991	992	993	994	995	996	997	998	999	1000
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	------

1990	Low	Company	Bo	Price	Chgs	1990	TM	P/E
176	125	Standard Press	141	165	+	0.18	2.7	
176	125	Standard Press	133	148	+	0.16	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	131	147	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	130	146	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	129	145	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	128	144	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	127	143	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	126	142	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	125	141	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	124	140	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	123	139	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	122	138	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	121	137	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	120	136	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	119	135	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	118	134	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	117	133	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	116	132	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	115	131	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	114	130	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	113	129	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	112	128	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	111	127	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	110	126	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	109	125	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	108	124	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	107	123	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	106	122	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	105	121	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	104	120	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	103	119	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	102	118	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	101	117	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	100	116	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	99	115	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	98	114	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	97	113	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	96	112	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	95	111	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	94	110	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	93	109	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	92	108	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	91	107	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	90	106	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	89	105	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	88	104	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	87	103	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	86	102	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	85	101	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	84	100	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	83	99	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	82	98	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	81	97	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	80	96	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	79	95	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	78	94	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	77	93	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	76	92	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	75	91	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	74	90	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	73	89	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	72	88	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	71	87	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	70	86	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	69	85	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	68	84	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	67	83	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	66	82	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	65	81	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	64	80	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	63	79	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	62	78	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	61	77	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	60	76	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	59	75	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	58	74	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	57	73	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	56	72	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	55	71	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	54	70	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	53	69	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	52	68	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	51	67	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	50	66	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	49	65	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	48	64	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	47	63	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	46	62	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	45	61	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	44	60	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	43	59	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	42	58	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	41	57	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	40	56	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	39	55	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	38	54	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	37	53	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	36	52	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	35	51	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	34	50	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	33	49	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	32	48	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	31	47	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	30	46	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	29	45	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	28	44	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	27	43	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	26	42	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	25	41	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	24	40	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	23	39	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	22	38	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	21	37	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	20	36	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	19	35	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	18	34	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	17	33	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	16	32	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	15	31	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	14	30	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	13	29	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	12	28	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	11	27	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	10	26	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	9	25	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	8	24	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	7	23	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	6	22	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	5	21	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	4	20	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	3	19	+	0.17	2.8	
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176	125	Standard Press	-3	13	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	-4	12	+	0.17	2.8	
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176	125	Standard Press	-8	8	+	0.17	2.8	
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176	125	Standard Press	-11	5	+	0.17	2.8	
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176	125	Standard Press	-43	-27	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	-44	-28	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	-45	-29	+	0.17	2.8	
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176	125	Standard Press	-47	-31	+	0.17	2.8	
176	125	Standard Press	-48	-32	+	0.17	2.8	
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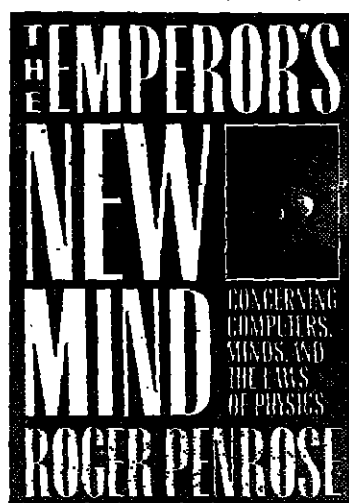
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● SCIENCE: WORLD GROWTH
● TECHNOLOGY: PLASTIC PROJECT

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

*The Emperor's
New Mind* by
Professor Roger
Penrose yesterday
won the Science
Book Prize.
Pearce Wright
reports on his
reactionary thesis
on human minds

Professor Roger Penrose and Dr Arno Allan Penzias share the same page for their entries in *Who's Who 1990*. They have other distinctions in common. When exploring the Milky Way in 1964 with a radio telescope at the AT&T Bell Telephone Laboratories, in New Jersey, Dr Penzias and colleague Robert Wilson detected a persistent radio "noise" coming from any direction to which they pointed their microwave radio receiver.



Their discovery of the background microwave radiation of the universe or "the cosmic whisper" as it is also known, which won them a Nobel prize, is still the most compelling evidence to support the theory of the Big Bang creation of the universe.

The finding confirmed earlier predictions that, if the Big Bang theory was to hold good, a gigantic flash of radiation would have been released to permeate the expanding universe and a tell-tale relic of the event should still exist.

At Oxford, as holder of the prestigious post of Rouse Ball Professor of Mathematics, Roger Penrose is one of the leading scholars at the frontier of astrophysics and mathematics, identifying and assembling other major pieces of the jigsaw of the universe in the shapes of black holes, quasars, pulsars and superstrings.

Professor Penrose has revealed many of the properties of black

holes, which occur when large stars collapse and reach a density such that even light cannot escape from their interior; it remains trapped by a huge gravitational force.

When the light becomes trapped, the scientists call the condition the "event horizon".

Professor Penrose—who collaborated on studies of black holes and gravitation with Stephen Hawking, Cambridge mathematician and author of the best-seller *A Brief History of Time*—has suggested that the event horizon stops scientists "peering" into the centre of a black hole. Scientists are also prevented from seeing a version of the ultimate catastrophe, the re-collapse, or end, of the universe.

Dr Penzias and Professor Penrose, even with their respective, clear ideas of the origin and the destiny of the universe, albeit described in mathematical terms as the ultimate space-time singularity, believe there are unsolved mysteries to the basic laws of physics that are deeper than their colleagues will concede.

When I interviewed Dr Penzias last year he had no hesitation in citing the biblical text on divine Creation in stating there was nothing before the Big Bang.

Conversely, Professor Penrose takes no account of religion or other form of metaphysics in his examination of the miracle of consciousness that forms the

centrepiece for his award-winning book, *The Emperor's New Mind*.

Indeed, his proposition is that an understanding of mind is inextricably bound up with understanding problems in modern physics. Moreover, he throws down the gauntlet to his contemporaries in a wide-ranging examination of the big mysteries of science and philosophy.

He opens the discussion by challenging a cherished belief among scientists that, given time, they will eventually create a machine capable of thinking and feeling like a human.

His thesis is a major assault on the evangelists for "strong AI" (artificial intelligence).

Professor Penrose's offensive rests on the argument that he finds many areas of science wanting and that new, deeper laws of physics are needed before the question of the mind can be tackled.

Yet his attack on the disciples of AI might seem more appropriate to have come from the psychologists and psychoanalysts probing the nature of consciousness, or the neurobiologists who confront daily the mystifying questions of how the interconnections of the brain work.

Professor Penrose says the book was inspired by the conviction that we shall not understand how our brains work until we have a better understanding of physics.

Recent advances in computer technology has lent new impetus,

even urgency, to the issue, according to Professor Penrose, who believes the question touches upon deep issues of philosophy.

"What does it mean to think or to feel? What is a mind? Do minds really exist?" Assuming they do, he asks: "To what extent are minds functionally dependent upon the physical structures with which they are associated? Might

'What does it mean to think or to feel? What is a mind? Do minds really exist? Are minds subject to the laws of physics? To what extent are minds functionally dependent upon physical structures?'

minds be able to exist quite independently of such structures? Or are they simply the functions of physical structure?"

Finally, Professor Penrose inquires: "Why, in any case, is it necessary that the relevant structures be biological in nature (ie. brains), or might minds equally well be associated with pieces of electronic equipment? Are minds

subject to the laws of physics? What indeed are the laws of physics?"

Since his own research has benefited from the enormous increase in computer power, Professor Penrose seems an unlikely reactionary in the revolutionary world of computer science.

He is also well known for an ability to bring seemingly abstruse mathematical ideas into the arena of practical consumerism.

He rejects the idea that the sum of human knowledge can be reduced to a set of systematic rules that computer scientists know as algorithms and which they believe could be programmed into computers to mimic the human ability to think.

While Professor Penrose recognizes the extraordinary advances in programming machines to work as robots, and to be taught to outplay a chess grandmaster, he insists human thinking, with its ability for insight and flashes of inspiration, contains elements that are eminently "knowable" in the area of work by mathematicians but not "computable".

Few of his contemporaries would dispute that great gaps exist in our knowledge of physics generally. Yet it is those deficiencies that sustain Professor Penrose's argument that considerations of black holes and Big Bang have a direct bearing on the issues of understanding the mind and consciousness.

Scientific ideas reflect and mould the attitudes and needs of their time. *The Emperor's New Mind* is an account of a dazzling journey that has shaped today's received wisdoms, involving, among others, Maxwell, Galileo, Newton, Einstein, Planck, Dirac, Heisenberg and Schrödinger.

As Professor Penrose traces their travels, it becomes apparent in one sense that there is no final and absolute position embodied in scientific laws.

Laws of science are not so much proved, though they can be firmly disproved; rather, they are survivors forming an accepted body of knowledge that stands up to the present state of experiment and theory.

New philosophies which revolutionized and established the current concepts of biology, medicine, chemistry, geology, technology, physics and mathematics flowed from fundamental discoveries at the start of the century: X-rays, radioactivity, subatomic particles, relativity and quantum theory among them.

Yet Professor Penrose asserts modern science cannot provide a coherent explanation of the natural world. The twin icons of 20th century physics, quantum theory and general relativity, are incompatible.

He says: "We know that at the sub-microscopic level of things the quantum laws hold sway; but at the level of cricket balls, it is

classical physics. Somewhere in between we need to understand how the quantum world merges with the classical physics of the world we see and feel."

More important, Professor Penrose believes, "we shall need this new law if we are ever to understand minds".

"It will require some radical, different ideas about space and time," he says. "Most of the effort in physics has been in pursuit of the very small, building larger and larger particle accelerators to achieve the higher energies. It has been unfashionable to look at quantum theory. But this is a huge area and we are due for a revolution."

He speculates that the way forward lies in the creation of a new theory of "quantum gravity", which he believes might shed light on the phenomenon of human consciousness and thus help explain the operation of our minds.

But in the end, his argument, which depends on a challenge to strong AI, begs the question: if we don't understand the phenomenon of consciousness, how can we be sure it cannot be enjoyed by a machine?

● *The Emperor's New Mind*, (Oxford University Press £20). The Science Book Prize was established in 1986 by the Science Museum and the Committee for the Public Understanding of Science, formed by the Royal Society, the Royal Institution and the British Association for the Advancement of Science.

The serpent link with man

A new study which has resulted in the reclassification of a fossil found in Texas in 1908 could give the missing links between reptiles and mammals

The four-inch-long skull of a fossil reptile that was first described in 1908 could represent a missing link in the line to mammals, including man.

The skull is the only known specimen of an animal called *Tetraceratops insignis*, and has languished in the American Museum of Natural History in New York since its discovery.

For more than 80 years, *Tetraceratops* has been classified as a pelycosaur, one of a group of primitive and very ancient reptiles that also included the familiar Dimetrodon, a fierce predator with a "sail" on its back, supported by grotesquely extended vertebral spines.

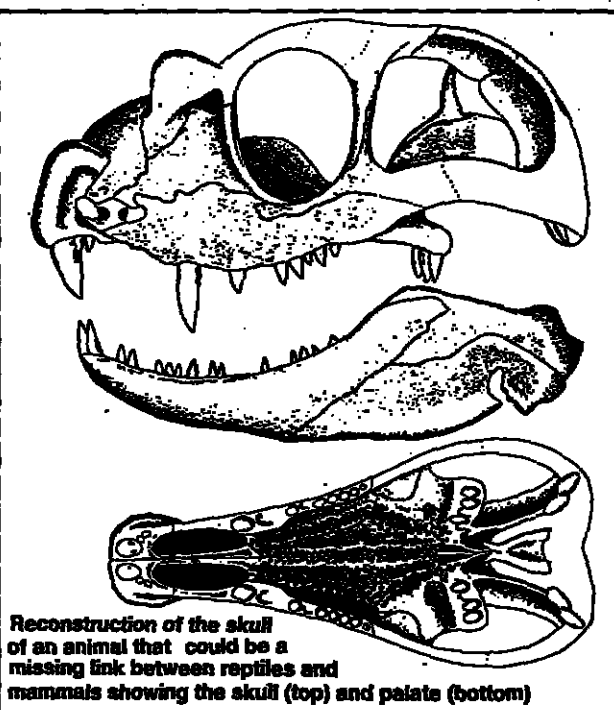
But a new study in today's *Nature* magazine by graduate student Michel Laurin and Professor Robert R. Reisz, of the University of Toronto, in Ontario, shows that *Tetraceratops* is not a pelycosaur; it is better seen as a therapsid, one of a more advanced class of extinct reptile thought to be directly ancestral to mammals.

The pelycosaurs evolved and diversified not long after reptiles appeared. The fossil of "Lizzie", the earliest-known reptile, on display at the Royal Scottish Museum, Edinburgh, until May 27, was alive about 340 million years ago.

Pelycosaurs appeared not long after this and, for a while, were the most significant predators. But their reign was brief: they were extinct after just 50 million years.

Many researchers have connected the pelycosaurs with therapsids. These emerged at about the same time as the pelycosaurs became extinct and, according to most current thinking, therapsids evolved from primitive pelycosaur ancestors, and mammals evolved, in turn, from the therapsids. However, the gap between pelycosaurs and therapsids has been large. Therapsids were relatively advanced creatures with features—such as differentiated teeth—that clearly link them with mammals.

The other problem is both geographical and historical, says Dr Alec Panchen, reader



Reconstruction of the skull of an animal that could be a missing link between reptiles and mammals showing the skull (top) and palate (bottom)

in Vertebrate Palaeontology at the University of Newcastle upon Tyne.

Nearly all known therapsids come from Africa and Eurasia: the first ones to be discovered were soon recognized as having something to do with the ancestry of mammals. The pelycosaur heathland, however, is in the Red Beds of Texas.

Pelycosaurs were seen, quite simply, as reptiles. Because of the geographical separation, therapsid workers and pelycosaur workers rarely met, and tended to think along different lines.

The connection came only when anatomists realized that the disposition of the cheek bones is, to some extent, similar in both groups. But the lack of a fossil-form intermediate between the two—a "big puzzle"—has been "a big puzzle", says Professor Reisz. So when *Tetraceratops* was discovered in the Texan rocks that had already yielded Dimetrodon and its relatives, it was classified as a pelycosaur—nobody thought to compare it with therapsids.

The concept of a therapsid in North America was "totally alien", says Professor Reisz, and in 1908 there were no tools adequate to work on it.

Mr Laurin has spent a year chipping away the rock with modern dental drills, reveal-

ing parts of the skull that had never before been seen. These show that *Tetraceratops*, although it has some archaic pelycosaur features, has about it a distinct air of therapsidness.

This enigmatic fossil could be the missing link between the earliest reptiles and man. Not that the question has been solved—far from it. However, some palaeontologists think that to arrange fossils in sequences of ancestor and descendant is philosophically suspect.

To do so, they say, prejudices the researcher against any other ideas about evolutionary change and ancestry. Brian Gardiner, professor of Vertebrate Palaeontology at King's College, London, sees the transition from reptiles to mammals as the worst manifestation of this line of thinking.

Tom Kemp, of the University of Oxford, sees the transition for what it appears to be, but still thinks that there are other, more intriguing gaps to be filled. The leap from pelycosaur to therapsid, from one kind of reptile to another, is one thing; the division between reptiles and mammals "may be a bigger gap than many of us care to admit", he says.

Henry Gee

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SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Not wasting our rubbish

Plastic waste is of increasing concern to environmentalists. John Newell looks at the latest methods of recycling

Plastic waste is a major concern for environmentalists. In Britain, it makes up about 8 per cent of dustbin contents by weight but up to 20 per cent by volume. Plastic waste is light enough to blow about in the wind and is often brightly coloured, making it a very visible form of pollution. Unlike paper waste, plastic is so resistant to decay that it is likely to remain intact for centuries in landfill sites.

Although such waste is non-toxic, increasing quantities in landfill sites may trap methane gas, formed by decaying rubbish, allowing dangerous and potentially explosive concentrations to accumulate. The arguments used by the plastics industries to defend their products — that plastics are light, durable, versatile and resistant to moisture and decay, which is what the consumer wants — are also good arguments for recycling plastics, not only to reduce their impact on the environment, but because they represent materials too valuable to throw away after just one use. Making plastics biodegradable is the obvious solution, but it would add substantially to the cost of the materials. There are also problems in timing biodegradation to prevent plastics crumbling away while still in use.

Recycling is another solution but, again, there are problems. More than 20,000 carbonated drinks bottles made of PET plastic — polyethylene terephthalate — are needed to make one ton of new plastic.

Another problem is that plastic waste is usually a mixture of several forms of plastic, which should be recycled separately because of their different properties. High-density polyethylene used for domestic chemical bottles and bottle caps, low-density polyethylene used for bags and bin liners, polyvinyl chloride used for blister packs and food trays, polystyrene used in egg cartons and yoghurt pots, and polypropylene used in margarine tubs and crisp packets, as well as PET, all have different properties which would be degraded by uncontrolled mixing. However, there is hope that more and more plastics can



The public will support plastic recycling: Mark Powell, project manager for the British Plastics Federation

and will be recycled. One reason is the effect of the environmental movement on public opinion.

In November last year in Brussels, the Association of European Plastics Manufacturers set up a Plastic Waste Management Institute to fund and organize research and development of techniques for plastic waste collection, treatment and recycling.

In Sheffield, in work sponsored by the British Plastics Federation, plastics are being taken by householders to nine waste banks set up in the city, while 500 houses have "blue bins" for separating domestic wastes into plastics, cans, glass, paper and batteries.

Mark Powell, the plastics recycling project manager for the British Plastics Federation, whose project is part of

Scrap — Sheffield Community Recycling Action Project — says that large-scale plastics recycling can be economic because the public is willing to put in the effort required to separate plastic waste.

At a big warehouse provided by Sheffield City Council, Mr Powell and a team of dedicated helpers have found it is easy to sort the waste delivered into different types of plastics, ready for collection to be recycled.

A second-stage recycling project, also sponsored by the British Plastics Federation, in collaboration with Salford University and Manchester City Council, is based on recycling plastics from dirty mixed waste, the state in which it leaves a dustbin at a landfill site.

This study is at an early

stage, but a number of techniques have already been developed for separating different plastics from each other and other wastes.

Paper can be separated by wetting it, making it heavier than plastics. Different plastics can be separated by liquids of varying densities, chosen so that one plastic floats while another sinks.

A breakthrough in separating mixed plastics comes from a "compatibilizer" called Bennet, invented by a Dutch engineer, Ben van der Groep, and described by a leading recycling expert, Ian Cooper, editor of *Materials Reclamation Weekly*, as "perhaps the key to large-scale plastics recycling in years to come".

Bennet is made of a mixture at the molecular level of small bits of polymers — long chain

molecules — made of other plastics and other chemicals.

The product is a large complex molecule with different "arms", each compatible with, and able to latch on to, a different polymer in a melted down mix of plastics.

The result is similar to an alloy of different plastics. Bennet is already being widely used, although largely in secret because manufacturers do not want to be known to be using recycled plastics.

Tests suggest it will be possible to use it to produce not only low-grade products — traffic cones and plant pots — but also high-grade products such as vehicle bumpers. These can be produced by adjusting the ingredients in the recycled mix.

JOBSCENE

Higher pay but more lay-offs

More freelance contractors are appearing as firms tighten their belts

Salary increases for information technology staff continued to outstrip inflation last year, but there are indications that increases are at the expense of lay-offs as companies tighten their financial belts.

The average salary for systems development staff increased from £14,367 in 1988 to £15,931 last year, a rise of 10.9 per cent, according to the Price Waterhouse Information Technology Review published this month.

The increases are in spite of a reduction in IT departments' expenditure. The average IT budget last year for a sample of companies with a department of more than five IT staff dropped by 1.3 per cent. Adjusted for inflation, this represents a reduction of just under 6 per cent in real terms.

Although salaries are continuing to rise — firms need to pay competitive rates to retain key staff — companies are saving costs by reducing staff numbers.

Just under a third of IT budgets are spent on staff, and the survey of 1,000 IT executives indicates that employee numbers for systems development staff have dropped from an average in 1988 of 24 people per installation to 22. The same trend was evident in the last major IT slowdown in 1985.

"IT departments lost an average of four staff per installation in the last downturn, but salaries continue to rise as firms have to keep pace with the market," says Kit Grindley, a Price Waterhouse consultant. "They are laying off staff and then bringing them back in as freelance contractors."

Systems development freelance contractors increased their share of the IT budget by 15.7 per cent, while the amount spent on in-house

staff fell by 11.6 per cent. Large conglomerates such as British Petroleum have indicated they are to remove hundreds of permanent IT employees as part of streamlining moves.

One survey conducted last year by Price Waterhouse showed that 9 per cent of respondents said they were implementing a policy of "no permanent systems development staff".

Systems developers working in the education and research sector had the highest average salary of £16,929, closely followed by finance at £16,832 and engineering at £16,802. Those in the public sector received the lowest average salary of £14,358.

Another factor affecting salaries is dependent on which manufacturer's hardware staff are using. The National Computing Centre's (NCC) annual survey of business sites shows there can be a salary difference of 10 per cent from one system to another.

Staff with IBM skills earn the most, while those developing software on Hewlett Packard equipment earn 8 per cent less than the average. Digital Equipment (DEC) staff earn exactly the average salary paid to all systems development staff.

On the other hand, technical support staff on DEC systems earn the most and are 6 per cent above average compared with IBM staff in the same position, who are 2 per cent above the norm.

Salaries also differ depending on the location within the UK. The NCC reports that staff in London earn almost a quarter more than those in Wales and the South West, while staff in Scotland and Northern Ireland are about 10 per cent below average.

Salary predictions for this year show that the rate of increase will reduce.

Price Waterhouse says the average salary will increase from £15,931 to £16,931, while Hay Management Consultants predicts it will be about 1 per cent less than last year.

Leslie Tilley

Doctors are finding indicators of potential health problems, such as heart disease or strokes, in detailed infant records

Baby clues for the future adult

DOCTORS are learning how to compile long-range health forecasts of the adults of tomorrow by studying clues provided by today's children.

A baby's weight at birth, the health of its mother during pregnancy, and whether it is breast-fed can influence future risks of heart conditions and other illnesses, while emotional traumas can make some children grow up to be social misfits, experts said at an international conference in London this week.

"It is becoming apparent that the way in which babies grow and develop may have a major effect on their risk of dying of coronary heart dis-

ease or a stroke when they become adults," Professor David Barker, of Southampton University, said at the conference, organized by the Ciba Foundation.

"The emerging message is that the health of girls and young women today is of pivotal importance to the health of the next generation."

Studies of 5,000 men born about 70 years ago in Hertfordshire, where unusually detailed birth records were maintained and are still avail-

able, show that those with higher weights at birth and at one year of age have much lower death rates from heart disease.

These rates have been higher in northern industrial towns and less-affluent rural areas of England and Wales, and are linked to the poor nutrition and health of mothers and poor growth of their babies, according to Professor Barker, of the Medical Research Council's environmental epidemiology unit at

Southampton. The unit is now studying how growth in foetal and infant life is associated with blood pressure and blood clotting in adulthood.

Low birthweight babies are more likely to become shorter than average adults and more prone to infections and allergies, said Professor Ranjit Chandra, of Memorial University of Newfoundland, St John's, Canada.

Breast-feeding appeared to confer more protection against infections than for-

mula feeds, by transferring antibodies from mother to child, he said.

Professor Michael Rutter, of the Institute of Psychiatry, London, said troubled childhoods could lead to broken marriages, unwanted pregnancies and unemployment.

"Aggressive, antisocial and disruptive behaviour in childhood predisposes to emotional distress and difficulties in social relationships in adult life, particularly in women," Professor Rutter said.

Those early problems led to forms of impulsive behaviour that made further negative experiences in adulthood more likely. "Childhood adversities may predispose to hasty, unsuccessful teenage marriages, and to unwarranted, unskilled jobs that create stresses."

However, Professor John Dobbing, of Manchester University Medical School, said: "It is science fiction without the science to tell parents what the outcome of their child will be. The human species has an enormous compensatory ability to overcome disadvantages."

Thomson Prentice

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Continued on page 38

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International Science and Technology Forum

Environmental policy and management: an international forum

7-14 November 1990, Alfriston, East Sussex

The environment is now a major political and economic
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objectives of the forum are to allow senior officials from
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take stock of the current position and consider policy
strategies that will help convert rhetoric into action and
formulate constructive solutions.

Major topics to be considered will include: environmental
policies in the light of the Brundtland Commission Report.
Our common future; environment and economics:
compatibility or conflict?; environmental law: increased
legislation or better self regulation?; key sectoral concerns:
resource management, health and pollution, waste
management-environment assessment, integrated
environmental management, environmental audits, best
practicable environmental options; training needs in
environmental policy and management: a neglected issue;
environmental policy and management: future directions.

The Director of Studies will be Brian D. Clark, Executive
Director of the Centre for Environmental Management and
Planning (CEMP), Aberdeen University.

The forum is intended for senior officials and policy-makers in
government, industry, environmental research, academia and
others concerned with formulation and implementation of
environmental policies and management such as
representatives of NGOs. Those selected to attend will be
expected to make both formal and informal contributions on
the forum themes.

There are vacancies for 40 participants.

Course fee: £545; accommodation charge: £350;
total fee: £895

The forum will be held at Dean's Place Hotel in Alfriston, East
Sussex. Participants will be accommodated in single bedrooms
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SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

The lengthening shadow

Our children will inherit a world population twice the size of our own and will farm one acre where we have three. A

UN report predicts a bleak future, Thomson Prentice writes

The world is facing an unprecedented population explosion, with one billion more people likely to be born during this decade, at the rate of three every second, or about a quarter of a million every day.

The planet stands in a growing shadow of catastrophe as a result, according to a bleak report produced this week by the United Nations.

The population now is estimated at about 5.3 billion. By the year 2025, it could reach 8.4 billion, double the number of people who were alive in 1960. During the 21st century, it could soar to twice its present total.

The human time bomb is ticking loudest in the already overcrowded southern hemisphere, where in many countries family planning programmes are either non-existent or ineffective.

This half of the globe contains the "bottom billion" of Africans and Asians who live in poverty, and whose needs increasingly lead to land degradation and rainforest destruction, according to the report, *The State of the World Population, 1990*.

Six or seven million hectares of agricultural land in the Third World is made unpro-

ductive each year through soil erosion, and some 11 million hectares of tropical forest and woodlands are cleared annually — an area the size of Austria and Belgium put together.

Meanwhile the "top billion", in terms of living standards, are spread among the industrialized nations of the northern hemisphere; they have the biggest share of resources and are most responsible for the greenhouse effect, acid rain and damage to the ozone layer.

Here, birthrates are declining, but life expectancy is rising, so that the elderly will make up a bigger proportion of the population, causing increased costs of health care and social security.

The lifting of the Iron Curtain has revealed 40 years of environmental pollution and neglect. Eastern Europe is scarred by ruined forests, poisoned lakes and rivers and obsolete industries. In Hungary, every seventeenth death is attributed directly or indirectly to air pollution; in one

Romanian town, Giurgiu, 150,000 people a year have been treated for pollution-related lung diseases.

The rapid expansion of the human population is exceeded only by the spread of the motor car. Today, there are 400 million cars; by 2010 it could be 700 million.

many of the massive traffic jams of the future will be in the southern hemisphere, which now has only 12 per cent of the world's vehicles.

"The human race now appears to be pushing against new limits of growth," the report says. "Our numbers, lifestyles and technologies have reached the stage where destruction of the environment has reached dangerous levels."

"We are saving through the branch that is holding us, and if we carry on as before, it may break and bring us crashing down with it."

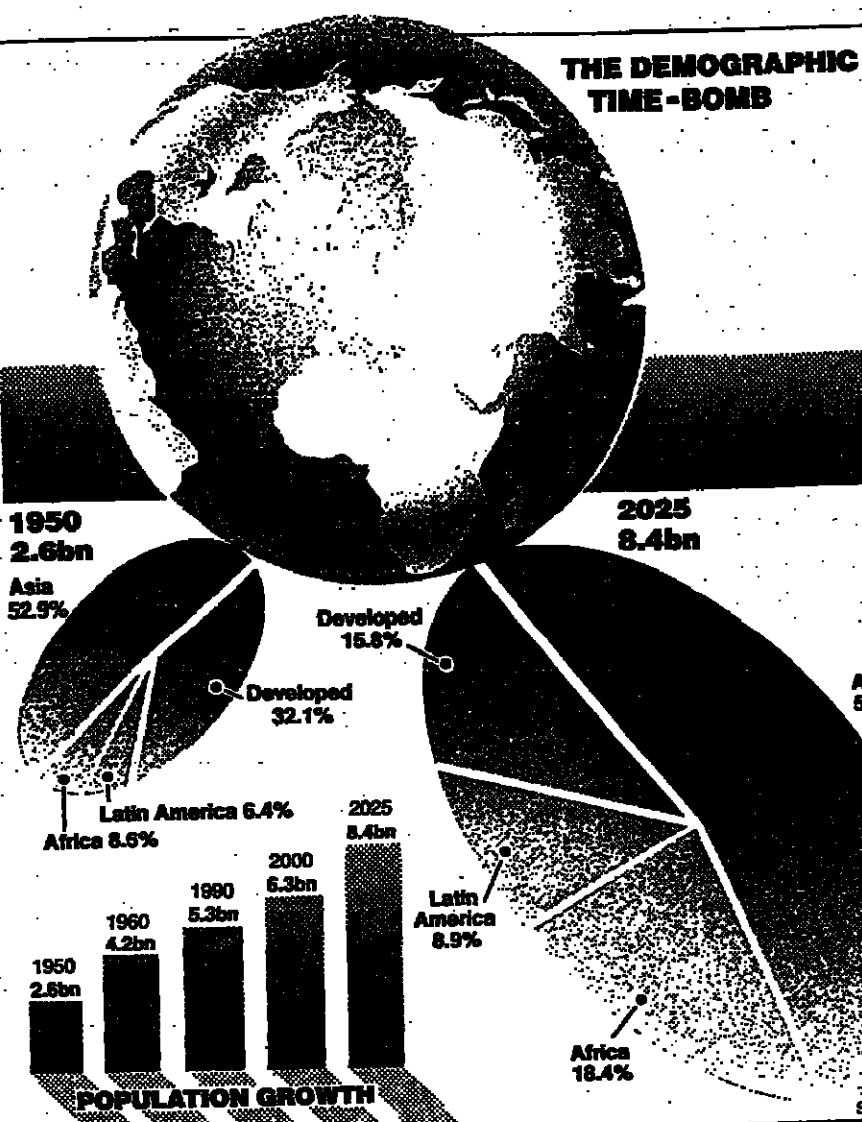
What can and should be done to tackle such immense

that are cheaper, simpler, safer and more reliable should receive additional public funding. Countries badly hit by debt burdens and trade deficits need international support to protect their health and education programmes from budget cuts.

The second strategy is aimed more at the northern hemisphere, where the industrialized nations are urged to shift towards cleaner technologies, energy efficiency and resource conservation.

Carbon dioxide emissions will have to be controlled, perhaps through a tax geared to the emissions of different fuels to encourage economy. Shifts from fossil fuels to renewable sources such as wind and solar power, need to be encouraged.

"We are not talking about the interests of distant descendants," the report concludes. "It is our own children who will inherit a world twice the size of our own, who will farm one acre where we have three, and who will be denied the diversity of life we have enjoyed. The choice now must be to act decisively to slow population growth, attack poverty and protect the environment. The alternative is to hand to our children a poisoned chalice."



Happily ever after?



A comprehensive study of death rates in 16 industrial countries, going back to 1940, has concluded that married people live longer than the unmarried. According to a report from Yuanren Hu and Noreen Goldman, of Princeton University, New Jersey, America, the death rate for divorced and widowed people in their twenties and thirties was particularly high — 10 times that for married people of the same age. One possible explanation given for the higher mortality among the unmarried generally was that the healthiest people married, leaving a higher proportion of unhealthy people in the single, divorced or widowed groups. Another explanation suggests people with partners to share their lives are better able to cope with stress in a rapidly changing world.

Transplant hope

A synthesized substance which could help inhibit the rejection of transplanted hearts in animals has been reported by American scientists at a biotechnology company. They report that the substance, a soluble interleukin-1 receptor, blocks a master switch of the immune system and could also be used to treat diseases such as rheumatoid arthritis, diabetes and multiple sclerosis. The researchers, at the Immunex Corporation in Seattle, gave mice transplants of hearts that were mismatched with their heart tissue types, guaranteeing rejection. Those receiving the receptor molecule sur-

BRIEFING

vived an average of 17 days while the untreated ones survived an average of 12 days.

New study help

The ability to feed information into a computer with little or no human interaction is still relatively uncommon, used mostly in bar-coding at supermarket checkouts. Its increasing importance in areas such as voice recognition and computerized vision systems has resulted in the first British professorship in automatic identification being established at Teesside Polytechnic. The professorship is sponsored by a local technology company, Eyeteck, which will provide industry speakers for the courses.

Friendly fuels

Producing bio-ethanol alcohol from grain, sugar cane or sugar beet crops, thereby turning them into fuel is an expensive process that cannot compete with current oil prices of about £10 a barrel. But supporters of the concept, who met in The Netherlands earlier this week, argue that the product should have a future as an environmentally friendly product that is renewable and among the cleanest of the burning fuels. European farmers and companies keen to turn crops into fuel hope to exploit a proposed amendment to regulations in an EC scheme under which farmers are paid to leave surplus land fallow. Under the proposal, they could plant some with cereals used for purposes other than food and still retain 70 per cent of the subsidy.

Matthew May

A light camcorder without the blur

VIDEO-CAMERAS, or camcorders as they are popularly known, have been reducing considerably in size and weight since they were introduced in the mid-Eighties.

Some now weigh less than a kilogram and, although convenient for the tourist or proud parent, the smaller and lighter a video camera is, the less stable it tends to be during filming, with slight jerks or shakes resulting in a blurred picture. Some camcorders include mechanical devices which attempt to dampen any movement of the lens if the camera is moved too sharply.

But last week the Japanese firm Panasonic went a step further, with the announcement of a new lightweight camera that can detect the blurring of a picture and, using part of an image stored a fraction of a second earlier, work out what the picture should have been.

As with other modern camcorders, this recorder uses a semi-conductor with a memory unit rather than a glass tube to record the pictures. During filming, video signals are continually analysed and put into a temporary memory.

Matthew May

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SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Sound means of suppressing noise

SOMETIMES noise is merely an irritation, but prolonged exposure to high noise levels can lead to stress, fatigue and even deafness. In some cases, the loss of hearing may be permanent, which is why employees who work in noisy environments often wear ear protectors to eliminate most of the sound.

But not everyone who is exposed to noise can wear ear protectors. Airline pilots, for example, must be able to hear sounds around them, including instrument warning systems which incorporate acoustic alarms. Several companies, including Bose, Sennheiser and Sony, are therefore working on noise-cancelling systems which reduce background sound levels but allow users to hear normally.

Sound level is measured in decibels (dB). A ticking watch is about 20 dB, normal speech 60 dB and a noisy office, 75 dB. When sound reaches the 85 dB to 90 dB mark, the risk of hearing damage begins.

The noise in a cockpit can be as high as 80 dB and most pilots wear headphones to reduce noise and receive radio messages. Headphones work by forming a sound barrier around the ears, but they often fail to cut out the very frequencies responsible for aircraft noise. Certain types of noise can also make the headphones vibrate, generating even more noise. To hear radio communications, the pilot must turn the headphone volume level up by at least

High noise levels can cause many illnesses, including deafness. But help is near at hand, says George Cole

10 dB, which exceeds the safety limit. West German airline companies, in particular, have become concerned about the number of pilots forced into early retirement by hearing loss.

Conventional noise-suppression systems work by reducing the overall level of sound frequencies. The problem is that this blunderbuss approach is more effective in removing the high frequencies responsible for speech and music than the low and middle frequencies which are the main constituents of aircraft noise.

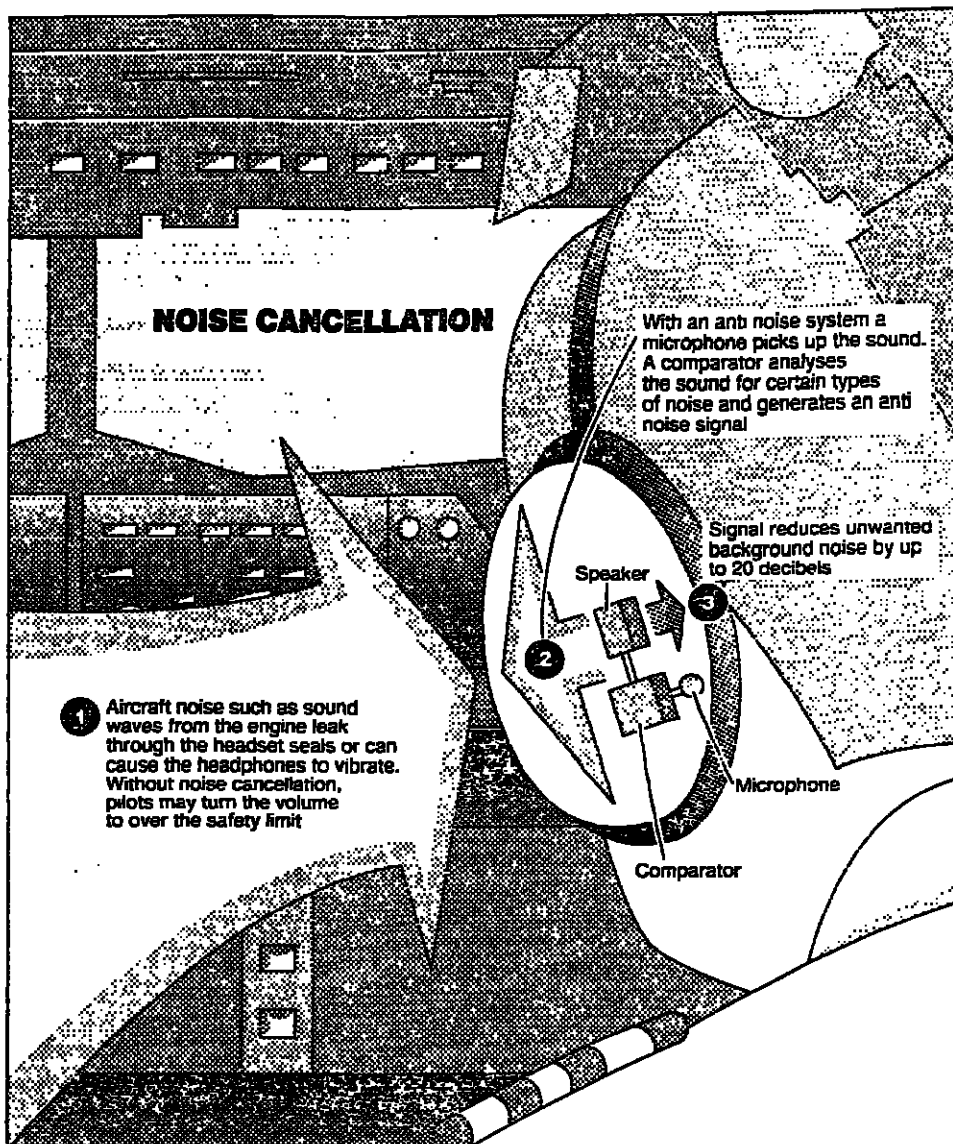
Noise-cancellation systems are designed to remove the noise frequencies while leaving the useful frequencies intact. The systems use special headphones which have a tiny microphone and speaker built into each piece. Sound entering the headphones is picked up by the microphones and transmitted to a small box of electronics. Here the sound is analysed for certain types of noise and, when it is detected, an "anti-noise" signal is gen-

erated. This has the same frequency as the original noise signal, but is in an opposite phase. When the anti-noise signal is mixed with the noise signal, they cancel out each other.

The companies claim that their systems can reduce certain types of noise by at least 20 dB - which reduces the loudness by a factor of four. Sennheiser has also developed a circuit which automatically adjusts the amount of cancellation throughout the flight (for example, engine noise is greater at take off than at cruising speed). Bose's noise-cancellation system has been used on space shuttle flights.

Despite improvements in design and materials, modern cars are also noisy. The combination of wind, engine and tyre noise means that a car travelling at 70 mph can have an interior sound level of 70 dB or more, making it difficult for anyone wishing to listen to the radio or use a car telephone.

Sennheiser has produced a prototype car telephone which uses noise-cancellation headphones with a built-in microphone and has also developed a similar system for a car radio. Car drivers and passengers could use headphones just to reduce noise, and Sennheiser says wearers would still be able to carry out normal conversations and hear sirens from emergency



service vehicles. Lotus has taken car-noise cancellation a step further with its Adaptive Noise Control (ANC) system. This works by placing eight microphones in the car roof which feed the sound to a micro-processor.

The processor analyses the sound for low frequencies and generates noise-cancelling sig-

nals which are relayed to the car's stereo system. Lotus says that ANC can reduce noise by a factor of five.

Philips is about to announce an in-car system that works over a wider range of frequencies.

Meanwhile, Japanese commuters are welcoming two developments, by Sony and

Panasonic, which reduce the amount of sound which leaks out of personal stereo headphones.

Sony's "hiss-free" headphones use special screens to soak up sound, while Panasonic's unit has a special "noise-cut" button which reduces sound leakage by almost half.

being carried out. "We need more research into better and safer access to buildings and, long term, we need to look at areas such as robotics."

He gave warning that, unless the panel's recommendations on increased funding were accepted, "problems just around the corner will hit us full square at the end of the century".

A spokesperson for the SERC said the report was under consideration but: "The outcome of the financial recommendations may not be known for some time".

Nick Nuttall

Tracking down mutant microbes

Scientists in the US and Australia, hot on the trail of drug-resistant malaria micro-organisms have come up with some startling, but contradictory, results

Researchers have discovered why some types of the micro-organism responsible for malaria have become resistant to the drug chloroquine - or have they? Two apparently contradictory sets of results suggest that the path to resistance is more complicated than was at first suspected.

Mutant malaria microbes, resistant to the widely used anti-malarial drug chloroquine, appeared in South America and South-East Asia in the 1960s. In many parts of the developing world, the most virulent malaria organism, *Plasmodium falciparum*, is spreading virtually unchecked.

"The ensuing problems have been enormous," writes Chris Newbold, of the Institute of Molecular Medicine at the University of Oxford, commenting in today's *Nature* magazine on the latest research, "both for residents of endemic areas for whom chloroquine has been used as a first line of treatment, and for medical practitioners in the developed world who now find it increasingly difficult to give reliable advice on prophylaxis to travellers."

The problem is that little is known about how chloroquine works. Consequently, even less is known about the biochemical changes that mutant malaria cells use to get around it. But a revelation that mutant cells functioned in a similar way to drug-resistant human tumours hinted that chloroquine interferes with a special protein responsible for transporting small molecules out of the malarial cell. This protein flushes drugs from the cell before they can do any damage, and proteins resistant to drug action just keep on flushing. In tumour cells, this protein is encoded by a gene called *mdr*, short for multi-drug resistance. Two genes similar to *mdr* were isolated in *Plasmodium falciparum*

and named *pfmdr-1* and *pfmdr-2*, but there was no proof to connect chloroquine resistance with either of these genes.

This is where the new research comes in. In the red corner, Thomas E. Wellems of the National Institute of Health in Bethesda, Maryland, and his colleagues, contend that the *pfmdr* genes have nothing in particular to do with chloroquine resistance - something else is responsible. In the blue corner, David Kemp, of the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research in Melbourne, and his associates think that *mdr*-like genes have an intimate connection with microbial efforts to combat the drug.

Given that both teams were working on essentially the same strains of malaria, how do their results come to be so different? The short answer is that *mdr*-like genes may not be the only ones involved in drug resistance. Other genes, yet hidden, may play even more important roles.

Reconciliation is possible. Kemp and colleagues found that some chloroquine-sensitive malaria strains have mutant *mdr*-like genes; even though these genes show no signs of resistance, they are primed to do so in certain circumstances, probably depending on the state of genes as yet unidentified. The chloroquine-sensitive parent in Wellems's cross-breeding experiment was "resistance competent" in just this way, even though the researchers did not realize it at the time. This could go a long way to explaining why their results looked so clear-cut.

Nobody yet knows the full story, but it now seems that drug resistance in malarial parasites is controlled by several interacting genes, rather than just one.

Henry Gee

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GOVERNMENT spending on general civil engineering research should be increased by 25 per cent if pressing problems, from reducing the number of deaths in the construction industry to saving the nation's deteriorating infrastructure, are to be tackled, according to a report on the work of the Science and Engineering Research Council (SERC).

Extra funds are also urgently needed to attract more bright, indigenous, civil engineering students into research to reverse the popular trend of staffing departments with students from other

Engineering experts call for cash

countries who eventually leave Britain. An extra £1.5 million should also be made available for environmental civil engineering researchers to study important ecological issues, including water pollution and the control of hazardous substances.

A national testing centre for coastal research, where technical solutions to rising sea levels can be assessed, should also be established as a priority, the report concludes.

These are just some of the findings made by a panel of experts, chaired by Professor Stuart Littlejohn, of the Department of Civil Engineering at the University of Bradford, who have been studying the success of SERC's major civil engineering research programme, launched in 1983. Professor Littlejohn says the £16 million programme has achieved many of its objectives, including improved collaboration

between industry and academics. Nevertheless, there is serious concern about the high number of excellent research proposals which have been rejected because of lack of funds.

SERC spends about £4 million annually on civil engineering research at a time when the construction industry's turnover is an estimated £40,000 million. Between 1983 and 1988, about 25 per cent of all so-called

"alpha" proposals had to be turned down, and last year the figure rose to about 50 per cent. An extra £1 million added to the annual budget raising the funding level by 25 per cent, would help save some of these promising schemes, the panel believes.

Professor Littlejohn said one of the most alarming findings had been that more than 40 per cent of fatalities in the construction industry occur when maintenance work is

Continued from page 36

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

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Rallying to a call from Alma Mater

Alumni can now repay the debt of their learning by funding Oxford's future. George Hill reports on the value of gifts such as the Rupert Murdoch Professorship

Nothing happens in Oxford University without it starting an argument: it would be considered a falling-off from the academic spirit to let any development pass unquestioned, however impeccable its credentials might appear.

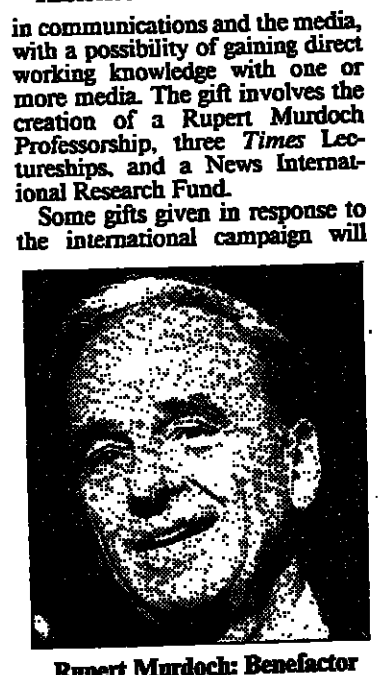
So there was some shaking of well-stuffed heads in 1988, when the university responded to restrictions on its level of grants by taking a leaf out of the Ivy League book and launching a £220 million appeal for funds. Some feared the appeal would contaminate the priorities of pure scholarship, some complained that the cash should be coming from the colleges or the Government and some thought the whole thing simply sounded un-British. But the critics have had to admit that, whatever else may be said about the campaign, it cannot be accused of becoming one of Oxford's legendary flock of lost causes.

This week's announcement that Rupert Murdoch, chief executive of The News Corporation Ltd, is to endow a chair in language and communications, a gift worth £3.1 million over four years, lifts the campaign past its half-way mark for funds raised, after little more than 18 months of the five years it is to run. This brings the total of gifts committed to the appeal above the £110 million mark, and it means that the campaign is already the most successful fund-raising initiative ever taken by a British university.

Mr Murdoch graduated from Worcester College in 1953 after reading politics, philosophy and economics. His gift is intended to help students in the English Faculty learn about current developments



Histories make men wise: Oxford hopes its past scholars will do more than reminisce, using their acumen to benefit the next generation



Rupert Murdoch: Benefactor

in communications and the media, with a possibility of gaining direct working knowledge with one or more media. The gift involves the creation of a Rupert Murdoch Professorship, three Times Lectureships, and a News International Research Fund.

Some gifts given in response to the international campaign will secure the continuity of existing teaching posts which had come under threat because of cuts in state funding, such as the chairs in Italian and Classical Greek.

Some will allow institutions such as the Bodleian Library and the Ashmolean Museum to be improved and modernized. Others will extend the university's resources into new areas, in similar ways to the Murdoch professorship. Such areas include the monitoring of environmental change, Chinese studies (with the aid of a £10 million gift from Sir Run Run Shaw, the Hong Kong businessman) and the performing arts (with the visiting professorship of drama and musical theatre funded by the impresario Cameron Mackintosh, with Stephen Sondheim as the first professor).

Former students and other sympathizers have been recruited all round the world to wring donations from the rich and the powerful. They give their time and

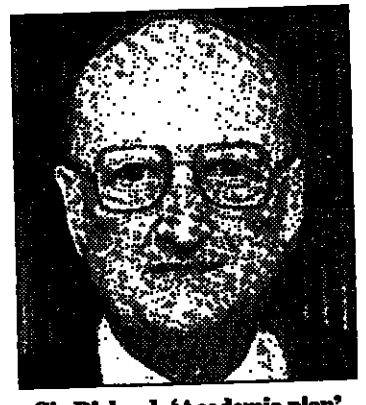
exploit their contacts with manifest enthusiasm: "I just think education is the most important investment one can make, the only one that truly endures", says one of them, Sir Martin Jacob, chairman of Barclays de Zoete Wedd.

Although the main source of funds in cash terms has been gifts from wealthy individuals, businesses and charitable foundations, the appeal has also made a strong attempt to restore contact with as many of the university's 120,000 former students as possible, and to build a relationship with them which emulates that achieved by some American universities. They can raise £100 million a year by persuading up to 70 per cent of their alumni to continue as regular givers.

Sir Richard Southwood, vice-chancellor of the university, says: "Altogether, the old members have given at this point rather more than we expected. One of the things everyone tells you is that former

students have a great loyalty to their own colleges, but are not so aware of the university itself as an institution."

At the outset, the campaign was dogged by assertions that the colleges were inordinately rich and could well afford to help the university through its difficulties. It was pointed out that few of the



Sir Richard: 'Academic plan'

colleges had responded directly to the appeal. Some, it was more than hinted, might see the university's initiative as a rival to their own fund-raising efforts.

Sir Richard says: "The idea that the colleges are rich enough to provide money on the scale we are seeking is entirely erroneous. Overall, they could not provide more than 2 or 3 per cent of the new funds we hope to secure through our campaign. A few are wealthy, but most are much less well-off."

"Some have made large individual contributions. Collectively, the colleges have agreed to contribute an additional £500,000 a year to pay tutorial fellows. They have generously made their lists of old members available to us. Remember that they also bear heavy costs which benefit the university, such as the maintenance of their historic buildings."

Fund-raising among giants of industry demands a degree of diplomacy. "Substantial benefactors do like to have their name attached to something specific," Victor Blank, the chairman of Charterhouse Bank, says. "But there is also a need for a general endowment fund, if the university is to establish itself as what I believe it is - the greatest centre of education in the country."

Critics of the campaign warn that a huge donation or a headline-catching notion might tempt the university into a project against its better judgment. "Benefactors do have ideas of their own, and we have our academic plan," Sir Richard says. "Sometimes an idea just does not fit into our priorities for the next few years, and we have had to say 'No'. More frequently, we have been able to say: 'Yes, we can see that that would add to what we have been planning.'"

Sir Richard is convinced that Oxford's campaign is a pathfinder which is already helping to change attitudes in Britain, where for many years it was assumed that the state should and would provide. He knows that at least one other vice-chancellor has raised his own appeal targets out of confidence that Oxford has heightened awareness of general funding shortages.

"Whatever the Government might have done or should have done, we have to face reality. Do we deny the students who are going to come after us the benefits that we enjoyed, in terms of quality, or do we act to maintain it? I know which answer I would give."

Foreign demand for our dons

THE FLOWERING of democracy in Eastern Europe has placed Oxford University's small team of international relations experts in a state of near siege. As interest among students at both graduate and undergraduate level has surged, so has the demand for the Oxford academics to advise the new regimes and comment in the international media.

As with other departments within the university, the international relations dons are looking to the Campaign for Oxford for the means to meet the demand for their tutorial services, which has doubled in a year.

International relations is a comparatively new discipline at Oxford. The Montague Burton chair in the subject was founded at the end of the First World War, to help foster peace in Europe, but it has become a discipline in its own right only in the last two decades.

There are now five academics teaching and researching the subject, led by Professor Adam Roberts, a Fellow of Balliol College who holds the Montague Burton chair. The impact of perestroika on their work has been startling. A survey of undergraduates has shown that numbers seeking to take up the optional course on International Politics Since 1945, will rise from 70 in the current academic year to 150 in October.

Dr Avi Shlaim, Alastair Buchan Reader in International Relations and Fellow of St Antony's College, says: "I have looked at the applications for next year and there really is a lot of interest in Eastern Europe." Oxford is well placed to meet that interest. The team includes Dr Alex Pravda and Professor Archie Brown, two of the leading specialists on the Soviet Union.

"We are not in an ivory tower," said Dr Shlaim. "We are not interested in arcane issues that concern no one. We are very much involved in the practical events unfolding around us."

One of the ironies of Oxford's success is that its fruits are being enjoyed, for the most part, by non-Britons. The chance to broaden the intellectual horizons of British post graduates studying international relations is being lost.

"Only about 10 per cent of our postgraduate students are British," said Dr Shlaim. "The reason is simply a lack of funds, grants and scholarships to enable them to do it."

The answer to the problem of training more of Britain's finest minds to deal with the changed international situation lies, Dr Shlaim and his colleagues argue, in increased staffing for the sub-faculty of International Relations.

Recently, encouraged by Sir Ralf Dahrendorf, Warden of St Antony's, Deutsche Bank and the National Westminster Bank have endowed five-year fellowships in International Relations.

Dr Shlaim said the appointment of another seven staff was needed. The only hope for the expansion of this increasingly vital area of study lay with the generosity of donors.

Douglas Broom

Much have I travell'd . . .

Twenty-two years ago, all undergraduates reading English at Oxford were expected to study Latin for two terms, a great deal of Anglo-Saxon grammar and literature, and absolutely nothing written later than 1900.

Students who had not quite realized this would arrive bursting with theories about the State of the Novel or the poetry of Sylvia Plath, and subsequently go into mild shock on finding that their first task was to learn the Lord's Prayer in Anglo-Saxon: *Faerum ure, pu de eart on heoforum*.

One occasion I impatiently asked an elderly tutor why we did not study writers such as Hecator Hugh Munro, known as Selk; and was gently told that since he had only died in 1916, it was far too soon for posterity to make any judgement.

Despite all that, or because of it, Oxford English was an inspirational course. There were hidden advantages to its antiquarian thoroughness: the compulsory Old and Middle

Undergraduates may not share all of Keats' sentiments, but reading English demands a mix of ancient and modern

English studies, leading to Chaucer, Spenser, Shakespeare and through the subsequent centuries of "moderns" to a culmination with the great Victorians, provided a broad understanding and love of the language.

In the Seventies there were overdue reforms: the compulsory Latin vanished, and the syllabus was extended to 1960; a cut-off date later abolished entirely. The baby did not go out with the bathwater: it is still tragically impossible to get an Oxford English degree without knowing some Anglo-Saxon works and all the great names from Chaucer to Tennyson.

But modern novels are included and more significantly, under the general heading of "History of the Language", examinees are invited to answer questions on the way that

English is going in the modern world. The English of politics, of satire, of the media, of America, is being brought in from the cold. This is the area which will be covered by the new Rupert Murdoch Professor of Language and Communications, and the three Times Lecturers.

As far as the English School and its 800 students are concerned, the timing could hardly be better: it is an area of scholarship into which they were expanding faster than funding could accommodate.

"The new chair will add a great deal," says Professor Douglas Gray, the chairman of the English Faculty Board. "People are increasingly interested in modern English: the language of advertising, of magazines, of films and television programmes."

His deputy, Dr Glenn

Black, says: "There are so many areas worth looking at - tabloid style, professional jargon, the whole business of language and gender and attitudes to women. After all, this is a course of English language and literature, and language is changing."

It is not difficult to envisage the reaction of some diehard traditionalists. Given the trouble which tutors at Oxford generally have in getting undergraduates to write their essays instead of watching *Neighbours* and reading *Private Eye* in the junior common room, there is a faint irony in the fact that both pursuits could become as justifiable as any other research.

Dr Black says: "We are a broad church. The course has always given prominence to language work, so why ignore the present?" Professor Grey, while expecting "some harrumphing", defends the validity of studying - say - the jargon of broadcast news in the same course as the language of Chaucer or Shakespeare.



Welcoming "new" English study: Dr Glenn Black and Professor Douglas Gray

Both dons also consider it profitable that News International will give vacation work experience in national media. "It forges a good link," Dr Black says, "between the university and the outside world." The Campaign for Oxford statement on the gift talks of "shifting the focus of its major English Faculty to

root it firmly in the study of contemporary Language and Communications", but no one from the English Faculty would put it quite so strongly.

"Our focus is a very long one, with roots in 12 other centuries, too," one lecturer said. "There is no way that anyone is going to come to Oxford to spend three years

studying nothing but newspapers.

"What we can offer is a view of today by people who understand many other centuries. That's why it was so clever to put the chair in Oxford, and not somewhere already obsessed with the 20th century."

Libby Purves

Scholarship has never been a fixed form, and the new Chair in journalism is not such an out-of-place piece of furniture

Endowing an enduring legacy

THE NEAREST that a poor mortal can get to immortality is to write a great poem or book that echoes down the centuries. As Horace crowed: *Exegi monumentum aere perennius . . . non omnis moriar: I have built a memorial that lasts longer than bronze . . . I shall not altogether die.* Next best shot for immortality is to endow some educational establishment, so that the learning, and questioning, and wit, and all the other peculiar attributes that are defining qualities of *Homo sapiens*, can be handed down to future generations.

Oxford may not be the university that leaps first to mind as the place to establish an innovative Chair in Language and Communications. It did not set up its Honours School of English until 1893, long after University College London and Cambridge, and even then there was outrage from traditionalists, who did not consider English a proper academic study for gentlemen.

When you think of the Oxford English School, the image that comes to mind is of *Beowulf*, abnormal accident in Anglo-Saxon, and queuing through *Gawain and the Green Knight* with Professor Tolkien, in the same way that the Oxford School of Modern History starts with the Fall of Constantinople.

Your image of Oxford English is not the whole truth. Oxford is proud of its old traditions, and likes to bang on about the longevity of its scholarship. But whenever a

new field of research is opening up, from genetic engineering to post-structuralist linguistics, Oxford is usually up there in the lead with its dons and its money. It has always gone for the best.

A Chair of journalism is not such an out-of-place article of furniture at Oxford, if you tot up the celebrities and good writers of contemporary journalism (far more from Oxford than elsewhere), or if you consider the founding fathers of the English communications industry, Addison, Steele, and Sam Johnson, all good Oxford men.

It is fitting that the new Chair is going to be able to work with the greatest lexicographical word-laboratory in the world, *The Oxford English Dictionary*. The importance of Sir James Murray's pioneering work was recognized disgracefully late by his university, but it is now rightly recognized as a fagelman for the rest of the world in lexicographical studies. There will be exciting interaction and symbiosis between the new Chair and the old dictionary.

The trend of modern scholarship is to recognize that in the house of English there are many mansions, or registers as the jargon calls them. There is not one single line of standard English running from *Beowulf* down to

literary writers of the Home Counties today. English comes in multiform registers, and accents, and styles, all of which are proper objects of study by an Oxford scholar, who is, by definition, interested in everything.

Professor Douglas Gray, chairman of the English Faculty Board at Oxford (his speciality is medieval literature) says: "All our undergraduates reading English now have to do a compulsory paper on the history and development of the English language down to today."

"They are already having to write essays on such things as

the lingo of advertising or television, or the language of Jamaican poets living in the East End of London. So the new chair, which we are delighted with, is not coming as a completely new department. It has a solid base to build upon. We expect great things from it."

Modern linguistics since Saussure has been much concerned with registers and diversities, exact senses and puns. The new chair will pioneer studies at the cutting edge of the teeming new Englishes of the communications revolution. Who knows? It might even improve the quality of Oxford journalists, if such a concept is deemed possible.

Philip Howard

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CAMPAIGN FOR OXFORD/2

FOCUS

The Bodleian in bytes

From Spenser to space, the five million books in the main library will be listed on computer, Peter Strafford writes

Sir Thomas Bodley, founder of the Bodleian, would have approved. A single computerized catalogue is to be created of the library's five million or so books, which date back to the 15th century and cover most areas of human imagination, speculation and knowledge, from Aristotle to the latest space technology.

The problem is that the project is vast, and will cost money. At present, the reader has to tackle no less than four separate catalogues, each covering a different period and each using a different system, to track down a book; in most cases it is necessary to come to the Bodleian to consult them.

Once the long list of books is on a single computer system, it will be possible for anyone with an appropriate micro-computer to have access to the list, find an entry and see where to go, among the Bodleian's various branches, to be able to read the book.

For years, this single record of all the Bodleian's books had been a pipe dream, according to Julian Roberts, deputy librarian and Paul Hamlyn, Keeper of Printed Books. The first steps were taken in the Sixties, when the university

acquired a huge, mainframe computer. But the drawback was that it was used by everyone, particularly the scientists, and the libraries only had access to it at night.

A beginning was made, however, in converting the catalogue for use in a computerized system.

The Bodleian's earliest book, a Gutenberg Bible, dates from 1455, and every entry from that date until 1920, a total of some 800,000 works, was put on to tape. The process ceased with the introduction of a new cataloguing system, and for books of the next 68 years, until 1988, the library continues to use those most old-fashioned of materials, paper and cardboard.

The greater part of the period is served by the huge "guard-volume" catalogues, in which every entry is con-

tained on a slip of paper which was stuck on to the page with glue - and often had to be moved to make way for later additions.

For a short time, from early 1987 to August 1988, there was a switch to an interim catalogue in which entries were made on cards. Finally, in 1988, the Bodleian was able to set up a computerized system, and since then new entries have been made directly on to that. What the library wants to do now, therefore, is to bridge the gap between 1920 and 1988 by computerizing the listing of books from those years, so that readers no longer have to consult the old guard-volumes.



History on file

It will be quite an operation, covering more than two million books, and cannot be done with the library's exist-

ing resources. One estimate is that if 30 people, split up into three teams of 10 each, are given the job, it will take them between 12 and 15 years.

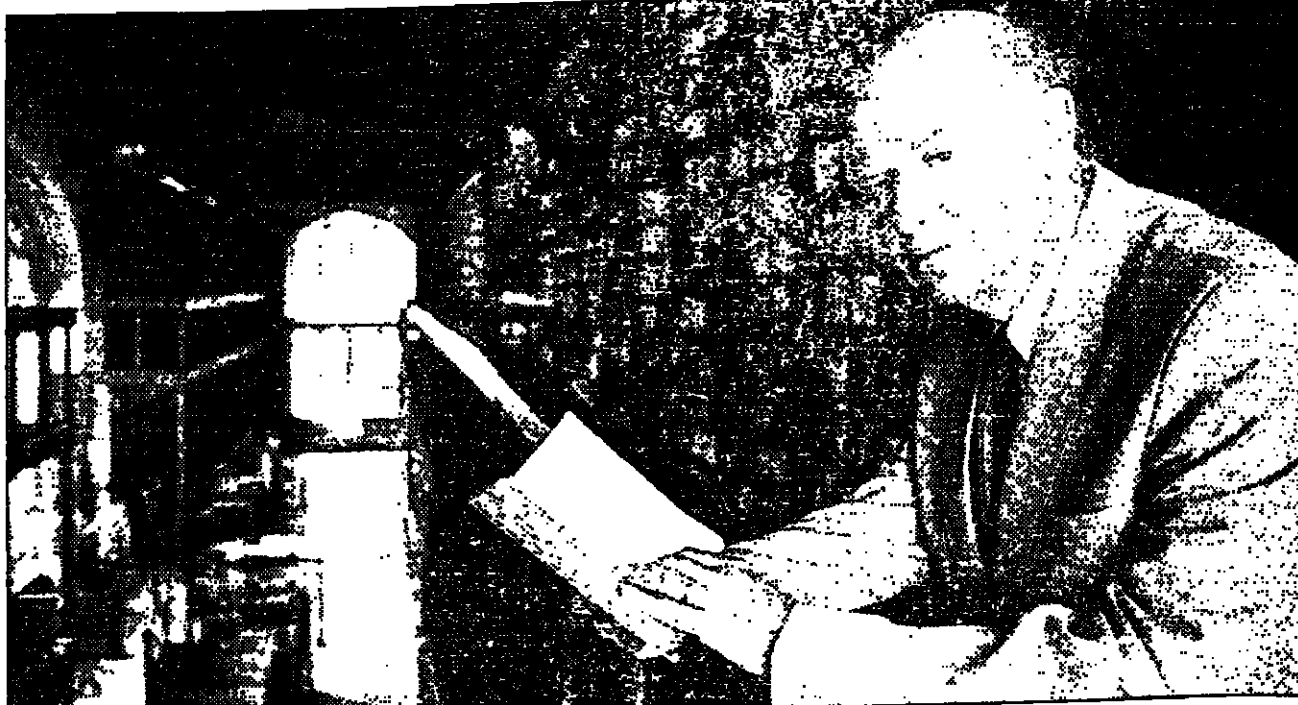
Mr Roberts says their task would be eased by, in some cases, making use of book records already put into circulation by other libraries, but even so it will be a long job.

The Bodleian has already received promises of some funds. The Pearson group has promised £1 million for the creation of a new post, that of a New Media Librarian.

This position will be filled by someone with experience in computer systems and the various facilities they make possible - such as compact discs, electronic publishing and access to databases - so that the Bodleian can take advantage of them.

There has also been a promise of £1 million from Paul Hamlyn, the publisher. This money will be distributed among a number of specific tasks, all designed to improve the functioning of the library.

The gift will pay for conversion of the interim catalogue for the 1987-88 period so that it can be used in the new computerized system; and it will provide for temporary posts in, for instance, the Indian Institute, the Law Li-



A daunting task: Julian Roberts, the deputy librarian on the Old Bodleian, estimates the cataloguing will take years

brary and the Publications Department.

This leaves the conversion of the catalogue for 1920-87, now contained in the heavy old guard-volumes, still to be paid for. This is estimated to cost at least £3.5 million, and the Bodleian is hoping that the funds will be forthcoming.

In many ways the Bodleian is Oxford's heart. Even before Sir Thomas Bodley opened his library in 1602 there had been a library on the same site, built with funds provided by Thomas Cobham, Bishop of Worcester, in 1320 and later

dispersed. One of the early benefactors was Humfrey Duke of Gloucester, and Duke Humfrey's Library, an elegant beamed room that was completed in 1488, is still a source of pride.

Over the centuries the library has expanded greatly. It has taken over most of the Schools Quadrangle, built in the 17th century, in which it originally occupied only one floor, followed by such landmarks as the Radcliffe Camera and the Clarendon Building.

The New Bodleian was completed in 1939, and other

branches are dotted around Oxford.

Today, in the words of Sir Richard Southwood, the vice-chancellor, it is a matter of keeping Oxford "at the frontiers" by revolutionizing the way its libraries are used. A single computerized system, which will enable people to find out easily where every book is, will enable the university to make full use of its enormous library resources.

There are about 100 libraries in Oxford, and between seven and eight million books. The aim is that they should all

be included in a single system. A start has already been made on this with the establishment of the Oxford Library System. This system now includes 24 libraries, many of them belonging to colleges, as well as the Bodleian.

For the moment, the only part of the Bodleian's holdings available is the computerized section which began in 1988. But the aim is that every book in the library, the second largest in England after the British Library, should eventually be easily accessible through listing in the system.

CONGRATULATIONS FROM ONE LEADING LIGHT TO ANOTHER

A merger of law interests

Future needs are being met by links between the law schools and firms

THE CASH shortage in law schools has forced them to turn for help to the private profession. Five years ago, solicitors' firms may have looked askance at such requests, but sponsorship is now commonplace.

Faced with intense competition in recruiting students, many firms are anxious to forge links which might pay future dividends, whether through funding of a chair or lectureship, through sponsoring a lecture series, or through donations for libraries or buildings.

Oxford, one of the main hunting grounds for recruits by big City firms, is a natural target and there have been several initiatives between the law faculty and firms. Norton Rose has rescued a Chair in English Law which was at risk of being left empty; Allen and Overy has created a Chair in Corporate Law which will be running by October; Travers Smith Braithwaite has funded a lectureship and Simmons and Simmons has agreed to pay the Bodleian law library's subscriptions to EC publications and periodicals.

As well as the vested interest of firms in ensuring they are known by students, there is an increasing sense of responsibility in the private sector for the academic world which provides its seed-corn. Robert Harman, of Travers Smith Braithwaite, says: "There was very much a feeling that we ought to do something for education."

Peter Freeman, of Simmons and Simmons, says: "We were anxious to do something for the Campaign for Oxford. At the same time, we are always looking for ways of getting our names in front of law students - ways which are not just a matter of handing out cash but which have some substance."

Simmons and Simmons's commitment is for five years. The firm has a nameplate in books it buys and the Bodleian has a guarantee of funds.

Firms and the law faculty both benefit. The Travers Smith Braithwaite lectureship, awarded to Fidelis Odiah, is in corporate finance law. Robert Harman, one of the partners, explains that the firm wanted the lectureship to be in the field in which it works.

Peter Holland, of Allen and Overy, which is also funding a chair at Durham University, says: "There's been very little contact between universities and firms of solicitors." The firm has created a charitable foundation to pay for the long-term funding of the chairs. "We hope there will be a two-way flow of information, with the professor telling us what he finds relevant while we pass on where we think an area of law needs some cautious handling."

Mr Holland admits the attractions of funding a chair in commercial law are clearly greater than some other branches of the discipline. "I don't think we would have thought it appropriate to set up a chair in Roman or medieval law." That may not always be the case. Although Professor Roy Goode, who specializes in commercial law, is the first holder of the Norton Rose chair, it was open to any field of law. Tony Kay, of Norton Rose, says: "We set up the chair in response to a request for help and there were no stipulations attached."

There are fears that such ventures may start to determine course content. John Eekelaar, chairman of the Law Faculty Board at Oxford, is aware of the dangers, but argues that outside funding is far from being a problem. The benefits were not simply financial. "It is also a way of improving communication between us and the legal profession and helping us maintain contacts between the sort of work we do and what goes on in private practice. It gives a wider dimension."

Frances Gibb



Conflict or co-operation?: outside funding is increasing

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Chinese gifts hold much treasure

Oxford welcomed its first Chinese researcher almost 300 years ago, in the 1690s, when a scholar arrived from the East to discuss maps. Since then the university has become much more knowledgeable about the Chinese world, and it is understandably proud of its latest coup — the decision of Sir Run Run Shaw, the millionaire philanthropist from Hong Kong, to endow an institute for modern Chinese studies.

The £10 million benefac-

tion, announced in March, is the largest of its kind so far given to Oxford. It will finance the Run Run Shaw Institute for Chinese Studies and, by concentrating on contemporary aspects of the Chinese world, such as politics, economics, finance, trade and sociology, will greatly broaden the range of courses, seminars and other activities which the university can offer.

Sir Richard Southwood, the vice-chancellor, talks enthusiastically of the new institute being an "intellectual entrepôt for the Chinese world and

The £10 million benefaction of Sir Run Run Shaw will help to establish further East-West links, Peter Strafford writes

western Europe". One of the main objectives is to attract Chinese students and academics, and he draws a parallel with the Rhodes scholarships, which created a link between Britain, the United States and the Commonwealth.

"For us in the West, the East is insatiable. But this will enable the two to come to-

gether, and help the West to understand what is going on in the East."

Sir Richard also makes the point, however, that Oxford will not be starting from scratch, and that it would not have made sense to have set up an institute of this sort if the university had not already acquired expertise in Chinese studies. There has been a professor of Chinese at Oxford since 1860, and there has long been teaching of Chinese language and culture. In recent years there has been increasing activity in modern Chinese studies.

Economists from mainland China have recently been coming to Oxford for training in the virtues of a mixed economy — and are still coming in spite of the change of emphasis in Peking. St Antony's and Wolfson Colleges have set up their own Chinese Studies Centre.

But the establishment of the Run Run Shaw Institute will give a new dimension to teaching and research in Chinese affairs. Oxford will continue to teach and study China's languages, its culture

and its past. But it will also acknowledge the importance of the present by giving far greater emphasis to modern topics.

The university has already done this for Japan, with the opening in 1981 of the Nissan Institute for Japanese Studies. Sir Richard makes it clear that, with the growing importance of the Pacific Rim countries generally, he wants to take the process further. Thought has been given to having a similar institute for Korean affairs. He also wants to bring in the countries of South-East Asia, where there are many Oxford alumni.

He went to Hong Kong in February to meet Sir Run Run, and discuss the plans for the new institute. Sir Richard found him to be a "lively and interesting man", already much active in funding university studies, both in mainland China and in Hong Kong, where he has set up Shaw College. Sir Run Run was particularly interested in making sure that the new institute would have something to offer undergraduates, and in making it a meeting place for East and West.

The institute will not be solely concerned with developments in mainland China, but will also study the Chinese world generally, including Hong Kong, Taiwan

and Singapore. For undergraduates, it will offer a variety of optional subjects in modern Chinese topics, and these will be available to those who may not have Chinese as their main subject.

The next step is to start work on a building, and a brief will be ready for architects soon. It has been decided that the new institute will be attached to Wolfson College, and that visiting fellows will be accommodated in the college. The institute will be headed by a professor, supported by two other permanent members of staff.

Professor Glen Dudbridge, who has been Professor of Chinese at Oxford since the beginning of the current academic year — having previously been Professor of Chinese at Cambridge — is equally enthusiastic about the project, and the prospects it offers.

He would not be drawn, however, on where China was heading today, and whether he saw this huge country, containing a quarter of the human race, fulfilling its potential.

China, he said, was an especially difficult country to predict. The upheavals it has undergone this century had been largely unforeseen, and it was difficult to know what the future held.



A mile for posterity

ALTHOUGH it is 36 years since Sir Roger Bannister broke the four-minute mile on the Iffley Road track at Oxford, and today's top athletes are running nearly 15 seconds faster, the track record has not yet been bettered. Competitors in the annual Oxford and Cambridge race this Saturday will try to break the record. Sir Roger, a master of Pembroke College, gives some tips (above) to Simon Muggleton, the former 5,000 metres European junior champion.



Contemporary China: Sir Run Run's institute will broaden Chinese study at Oxford

BRITISH industry is dragging its feet when it comes to backing the fundamental research work being carried out by Oxford's science departments.

While British companies opt to pursue short-term gain, overseas companies, particularly American corporations, are investing millions of pounds in research facilities that should one day provide the "quantum leap" discovery that unlocks the door to long-term profits.

The figures tell their own story. Of the £47.5 million Oxford received from outside bodies last year for research projects, just £2.5 million — 5 per cent — came from British companies. That contribution was dwarfed by the £10.5 million made by overseas companies, an amount not far behind the £17 million contributed by all five of Britain's nationally funded research councils.

Given these figures, it should come as little surprise that the

British firms slow to make a mark in science

We are benefitting from foreign foresight, but what of local support?

university seriously considered applying for a Queen's Award last year, not for technological achievement as might be expected and as its computer department last month won, but for exports.

The pioneer in this field of external funding is Professor Raymond Dwek, whose new Institute of Glycobiology is being paid for by Monsanto, the American chemicals giant. Monsanto last year donated £2.9 million towards the cost of the new laboratory, with the university contributing £800,000 and the best undeveloped site left in the university's science area.

But this was no spontaneous gesture by Monsanto. Professor Dwek's link with the company goes back to 1983. In that year he was invited to inspect some new

products that Advent, a British venture capital group heavily backed by Monsanto, was considering.

When Advent and Monsanto executives paid a return visit to Professor Dwek's laboratory in the biochemistry department, they liked what they saw of his work into body sugars.

In particular, they were interested in his department's work into the relationship between abnormalities in the sugar elements of glyco-proteins and a range of serious diseases.

To his surprise Monsanto proposed a £2 million funding package over four years, a package that was quickly upgraded as the cost

and scope of the department's work grew. Biotechnology is an expensive business, Professor Dwek says. "Oxford brains would not have been enough. We needed to have Monsanto finance."

The relationship remains the model of how industry and a university science department can work. Oxford retains the intellectual rights over its discoveries, while Monsanto has the right to exploit these rights, while paying the university a royalty.

Both the university and Monsanto have equity stakes in a new company, Oxford Glyco-systems, set up to exploit the technology the department has developed. Some 40 people are

already employed at its Abingdon site. Never before had the university become a shareholder in a company commercially using the results of ongoing research.

The Monsanto tie-up may now provide a model for others, but Professor Dwek recalls that at the beginning the university was so naive Monsanto almost had to write both sides of the contract, to avoid being accused of exploitation. Oxford has learned quickly. Its biggest success has been the attracting of the American drug giant, the Squibb Corporation, now Bristol-Myers Squibb. Squibb has donated £20 million to the Department of Pharmacology, half of which is being spent on

building a new department for Professor David Smith.

Once again it has taken an American company to recognize that a new generation of drugs will be dependent on breakthroughs made in pure scientific research.

Professor Smith's research is looking at the way chemicals interact with the central nervous system, in particular how certain proteins operate as chemically receptive sites. For the moment the work is research at its purest. But one day it could provide a cure for the untreatable Alzheimer's disease.

Squibb's interest in Professor Smith's department dates back to 1986, when the department held a workshop to show off its research work to industrial companies. Unlike Professor Dwek in 1983,

Professor Smith was, by 1986, running a department in need of outside funding. Again the figures tell their own story. Of the 23 companies that attended, 21 were from outside Britain.

Follow-up meetings reduced the number of seriously interested parties to two — one Japanese company and Squibb — with the latter winning the day with a corporate philosophy more in keeping with Professor Smith's. A meeting of like minds, he calls it. The deal was signed in 1987.

Three years on, with the roof about to go on his brand new department, Professor Smith's team has wasted little time and already has six patents pending.

Professor Smith is still hopeful that British industry will wake up to the opportunities it is missing. "In British universities there is a fantastic amount of research that is worth support."

Matthew Bond



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Braashee poised to confirm merit of decisive Chester win

By Mandarin
(Michael Phillips)

TWELVE months ago, Mountain Kingdom became the first horse to win the Ormonde Stakes at Chester and the Yorkshire Cup at York in the same season. Now, Braashee is named to complete that same rare double following his impressive win on the Roo-de-lye last Thursday.

At Chester, Braashee, trained by Alec Stewart, left Michelozzo, last season's St Leger winner, Albad and Top Class flat-footed in the straight. With only a 2lb pull in the weights, Top Class should not be capable of reversing that form, while Albad appears to have little chance as he meets Braashee on the same terms.

A fine thoroughbred also gives Braashee the beating of his five-year-old rival, Sapienza, who was beaten eight lengths in second in the St Leger.

The fact that Nobel Savage finished even further behind Michelozzo in the March Stakes at Goodwood will not be lost on those who pin their faith on the form book, although Nobel Savage looked an improved horse when he gave Travelling Light, the subsequent Chester Cup winner, 2lb and a decisive beating at Newmarket last month.

His most dangerous rival today could be Afway, who takes a step up in class after impressing when winning a handicap under 10 stone at Newmarket a fortnight ago.

Barry Hills, who has saddled the winner of the Duke of York Stakes five times already, relies on Polar Bird.



Alec Stewart, trainer of Braashee (York, 3.40)

getting away from Braashee, whose owner, Sheikh Maktoum Al-Maktoum, can derive further satisfaction from winning the Duke of York Stakes, the other group race on the programme, with Great Commotion.

Although he has never raced over a trip as short as six furlongs, Great Commotion has shown that he possesses the requisite speed by being placed in the Irish 2,000 Guineas, the Hungerford Stakes and the Goodwood Mile, in addition to winning the seven-furlong Beeswing Stakes at Newmarket.

His most dangerous rival today could be Afway, who takes a step up in class after impressing when winning a handicap under 10 stone at Newmarket a fortnight ago.

Barry Hills, who has saddled the winner of the Duke of York Stakes five times already, relies on Polar Bird.

Useful two-year-old that she was, she did not give the impression in her first season that she would attain the standard already set by Great Commotion.

Swordsmith, Hills' runner in the Norweth Holst Trophy, was last seen making the earlier running in the 2,000 Guineas in his capacity as Sure Sharp's pacemaker. Ridden with greater restraint this time he could well prove capable of following in the footsteps of Greensmith, who won the corresponding event last year after also acting as a pacemaker in the 2,000.

On his seasonal debut, Swordsmith was a creditable fourth to Rock City in the Greenham Stakes at Newbury, but in this instance he could be hard pressed to give 5lb to Alhijarah.

Alhijarah showed the speed necessary to cope with York's seven-furlong handicap, made all the running at Newbury first time out. He never looked like being caught, and I immediately resolved to follow him the next time he ran. This is the occasion.

The way that Bequerel won at Salisbury eight days ago hinted that he would be good value for the 5lb penalty in the Hambleton Limited Handicap, the race his connections won last year with True Pamache.

Finally, Michael Stoute and Walter Swinburn are hopeful of pulling off a first and last race double with Sasaki (2.00) and Snowy Owl (5.15).

Blinkered first time

YORK 4.10 Epsom.

Selections

By Mandarin

6.0 Warm Winter. 6.30 Golden Lantern. 7.0 Sand Castle. 7.30 Palace Yard. 8.0 Sunnyside. 8.30 Kind A Smart.

Brian Burt's selection: 8.0 Green Bramble.

Going: good to firm, firm patches on hurdles course.

6.0 ABBOTS RIFTON NOVICES SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (21.7lb; 2m 100yd) (10 runners)

1. 2102 WARM WINTER 10 (5) R. Carter 4-11-10. 10. 2103 SAND CASTLE 10 (5) R. Carter 4-11-10. 10. 2104 GOLDEN LANTERN 10 (5) R. Carter 4-11-10. 10. 2105 PALACE YARD 10 (5) R. Carter 4-11-10. 10. 2106 SUNNYSIDE 10 (5) R. Carter 4-11-10. 10. 2107 KIND A SMART 10 (5) R. Carter 4-11-10. 10. 2108 GREEN BRAMBLE 10 (5) R. Carter 4-11-10. 10. 2109 WARM WINTER 10 (5) R. Carter 4-11-10. 10. 2110 SAND CASTLE 10 (5) R. Carter 4-11-10.

6.30 PAPERWORTH NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE (21.9lb; 2m 200yd) (5)

1. 1142 BULLY BOY 10 (5) R. Carter 4-11-10. 1. 1143 GOLDEN LANTERN 10 (5) R. Carter 4-11-10. 1. 1144 PALACE YARD 10 (5) R. Carter 4-11-10. 1. 1145 SUNNYSIDE 10 (5) R. Carter 4-11-10. 1. 1146 KIND A SMART 10 (5) R. Carter 4-11-10.

1. 1147 GOLDEN LANTERN 10 (5) R. Carter 4-11-10. 1. 1148 PALACE YARD 10 (5) R. Carter 4-11-10. 1. 1149 SUNNYSIDE 10 (5) R. Carter 4-11-10. 1. 1150 KIND A SMART 10 (5) R. Carter 4-11-10.

1. 1151 GOLDEN LANTERN 10 (5) R. Carter 4-11-10. 1. 1152 PALACE YARD 10 (5) R. Carter 4-11-10. 1. 1153 SUNNYSIDE 10 (5) R. Carter 4-11-10. 1. 1154 KIND A SMART 10 (5) R. Carter 4-11-10.

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7.0 BRENT LEISURE HANDICAP HURDLE (21.8lb; 3m 100yd) (12)

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1. 2

A chill draught blows down the years as England warm to their task in football's World Cup

Beware of the Roman candle-light

By Stuart Jones
Football Correspondent

IN THE early hours of yesterday morning Bobby Robson, the England manager, stopped short of celebrating his team's victory over the Republic of Ireland and instead turned to the task of the World Cup 24 years ago. He preferred instead to state that England will travel to Italy next week carrying not so much expectation as "a feeling of growing optimism".

He intimated that the candle of hope burns brightly because of the unbeaten run which, after the narrow victory over Denmark on Tuesday night, stands at 17 games. His argument rests on a solid statistical foundation. The figures suggest that England are the best side in the world.

No one, not even Brazil, Italy, Netherlands or West Germany, has compiled a similarly unblemished record over the last two years. But records can be deceptive. Robson does not need to be reminded, for instance, of his own side's form

before the European championship. One defeat in West Germany was the lone blot during an otherwise clean sheet of 16 matches from October 1986 to May 1988. England travelled to the tournament with the same "feeling of growing optimism", only to be immediately defeated by three successive losses, the equal of the worst run of Robson's national managerial career.

The best has followed. World Cup finalists, such as Brazil, Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia, have been beaten along the way, before basking in the candle-light, it is as well to reflect on the threats posed by two nations who have not qualified for the tournament.

Poland, in Katowice last October, and Denmark, especially during the first half at Wembley, resembled a stiff breeze blowing across English hopes. In the words of Robson, "they caused us a bit of turbulence". In particular, they again illustrated a defensive deficiency which has long been apparent.

England remain vulnerable to the

swift counter-attack and especially against opponents who run at them. It is a flaw which cannot be wholly covered by Walker, who has developed so rapidly that his excellence is now taken for granted. "He is vital to us," Robson said.

Even so, had three different Danish defenders taken the instinct of a forward with them on their break before the interval, the remarkable record of England's regular defensive unit would have been damaged. Since Walker joined Shilton, Stevens, Pearce and Butcher, only one goal has been conceded in 10 games.

Almost all of the genuine contenders in the World Cup will line up at the rear like Denmark, with a sweeper tidying up behind two markers. The midfield, reinforced by the full backs, is numerically stronger (five men as opposed to England's four) and the system is more flexible.

Andersen, Olsen and Sivemark were in total all able temporarily to leave their defensive duties, for example, and endanger England.

Nor was that the only way in which the Danes closely resembled the superior sides that have earned the right to assemble in Italy next month.

They did not readily concede possession until the risk was worthwhile. In searing heat, when dehydration and exhaustion will sooner or later invade minds and bodies alike, that will be one of the most critical factors. The English game is not naturally designed to accommodate a custom so prevalent on the Continent.

McMahon has yet to appreciate the unfamiliar art and Gascoigne is still learning to master it. Waddle can be excused for his unusual waywardness as he was visibly suffering from mental and physical fatigue. Rostie, his belated substitute, should have been offered more than merely a token gesture.

Hodge, on the other flank, confirmed his place in the World Cup squad to be announced on Monday. "That was his best game for England," according to Robson, who declared that his list of 22

chosen men is complete. Beasant and Smith seem certain to regret his decision.

Whether he picks Adams or Wright and either Steven or Rostie, one individual is still his leading light. Lineker, he believes, could finish his international career as England's highest scorer. With the lone goal against Denmark, he requires 14 to surpass Greaves and 19 to overtake Bobby Charlton's total of 49.

"It is on," Robson said. "He's a marked man but he's got the ability to take the one chance. His goal was typical, tucking away a low, fast cross. He's improved since the 1986 World Cup and so have those who form the rest of the nucleus."

"You never know the future but we've matched all of the teams we've played in the last two years and we've often been better." Yet, as in midweek and against the Brazilians two months ago, the striking difference of Lineker represents the difference between a marginal victory and the possibility of defeat or, as will soon be the case, elimination.

YACHTING

Rothmans revives her challenge for third place overall

By Barry Pickhall

THE leading British maxi, Rothmans, skippered by Lawrence Smith, renewed her challenge for third place in the Whitbread Round the World Race yesterday as the leading New Zealand ketch, Fisher & Paykel and Steiner, closed to within 1,000 miles of the Southampton finish.

Smith and his crew, who lost 287 miles on the leaders when they were forced into port to repair broken rigging caused by the leg, climbed up to sixth place overnight alongside the Russian entry, Farizel. More important, Rothmans has narrowed the gap with Merit, her Swiss rival for third place, to 30 miles and Smith remains hopeful that local knowledge will help the English coast when they meet during the closing stages.

Eighty miles ahead, Fisher & Paykel was clinging to a five-mile lead over Steiner yesterday, promising a thrilling finish to this 33,000-mile race late on Sunday. Behind these two, a similar tussle is developing between the Spanish maxi, Fortuna, and Roger Nilsson's Swedish ketch, The Card. Yesterday Fortuna held the advantage by two miles but Merit is chasing just 11 miles behind the Swedish ketch.

One of the fastest performances yesterday was by Bob Salmon's Liverpool Enterprise in thirteenth place. The former South African yacht maintained an average of 10 knots despite

the fact that two of her crew are confined to their bunks with back problems and another crewman, Nick Payne, has broken a bone in his foot.

Further back in the fleet, L'Esprit de Liberte, Rucanor Sport and Maiden, the three leaders in division 3, were caught up in a search for a French fisherman who had fallen overboard. Bruno Delbois, Rucanor's skipper, reported later that the man had been found dead.

Yesterday, Rucanor and Maiden, who remain one mile apart, closed to within 42 miles of Patrick Tabarly's division leading L'Esprit de Liberte, promising another nail-biting finish next week.

LEADERS POSTIONS ON 13th MAY (estimated). 1. Fisher & Paykel (NZ), 1,113 miles; 2. Steiner (NZ), 1,122 miles; 3. Rucanor (NZ), 1,155 miles; 4. Maiden (NZ), 1,156 miles; 5. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,161 miles; 6. Fortuna (E), 1,162 miles; 7. The Card (S), 1,163 miles; 8. Merit (S), 1,164 miles; 9. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,165 miles; 10. Enterprise (GB), 1,166 miles; 11. Fortuna (E), 1,167 miles; 12. Rucanor (NZ), 1,168 miles; 13. Maiden (NZ), 1,169 miles; 14. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,170 miles; 15. The Card (S), 1,171 miles; 16. Merit (S), 1,172 miles; 17. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,173 miles; 18. Enterprise (GB), 1,174 miles; 19. Fortuna (E), 1,175 miles; 20. Rucanor (NZ), 1,176 miles; 21. Maiden (NZ), 1,177 miles; 22. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,178 miles; 23. The Card (S), 1,179 miles; 24. Merit (S), 1,180 miles; 25. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,181 miles; 26. Enterprise (GB), 1,182 miles; 27. Fortuna (E), 1,183 miles; 28. Rucanor (NZ), 1,184 miles; 29. Maiden (NZ), 1,185 miles; 30. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,186 miles; 31. The Card (S), 1,187 miles; 32. Merit (S), 1,188 miles; 33. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,189 miles; 34. Enterprise (GB), 1,190 miles; 35. Fortuna (E), 1,191 miles; 36. Rucanor (NZ), 1,192 miles; 37. Maiden (NZ), 1,193 miles; 38. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,194 miles; 39. The Card (S), 1,195 miles; 40. Merit (S), 1,196 miles; 41. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,197 miles; 42. Enterprise (GB), 1,198 miles; 43. Fortuna (E), 1,199 miles; 44. Rucanor (NZ), 1,200 miles; 45. Maiden (NZ), 1,201 miles; 46. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,202 miles; 47. The Card (S), 1,203 miles; 48. Merit (S), 1,204 miles; 49. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,205 miles; 50. Enterprise (GB), 1,206 miles; 51. Fortuna (E), 1,207 miles; 52. Rucanor (NZ), 1,208 miles; 53. Maiden (NZ), 1,209 miles; 54. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,210 miles; 55. The Card (S), 1,211 miles; 56. Merit (S), 1,212 miles; 57. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,213 miles; 58. Enterprise (GB), 1,214 miles; 59. Fortuna (E), 1,215 miles; 60. Rucanor (NZ), 1,216 miles; 61. Maiden (NZ), 1,217 miles; 62. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,218 miles; 63. The Card (S), 1,219 miles; 64. Merit (S), 1,220 miles; 65. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,221 miles; 66. Enterprise (GB), 1,222 miles; 67. Fortuna (E), 1,223 miles; 68. Rucanor (NZ), 1,224 miles; 69. Maiden (NZ), 1,225 miles; 70. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,226 miles; 71. The Card (S), 1,227 miles; 72. Merit (S), 1,228 miles; 73. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,229 miles; 74. Enterprise (GB), 1,230 miles; 75. Fortuna (E), 1,231 miles; 76. Rucanor (NZ), 1,232 miles; 77. Maiden (NZ), 1,233 miles; 78. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,234 miles; 79. The Card (S), 1,235 miles; 80. Merit (S), 1,236 miles; 81. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,237 miles; 82. Enterprise (GB), 1,238 miles; 83. Fortuna (E), 1,239 miles; 84. Rucanor (NZ), 1,240 miles; 85. Maiden (NZ), 1,241 miles; 86. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,242 miles; 87. The Card (S), 1,243 miles; 88. Merit (S), 1,244 miles; 89. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,245 miles; 90. Enterprise (GB), 1,246 miles; 91. Fortuna (E), 1,247 miles; 92. Rucanor (NZ), 1,248 miles; 93. Maiden (NZ), 1,249 miles; 94. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,250 miles; 95. The Card (S), 1,251 miles; 96. Merit (S), 1,252 miles; 97. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,253 miles; 98. Enterprise (GB), 1,254 miles; 99. Fortuna (E), 1,255 miles; 100. Rucanor (NZ), 1,256 miles; 101. Maiden (NZ), 1,257 miles; 102. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,258 miles; 103. The Card (S), 1,259 miles; 104. Merit (S), 1,260 miles; 105. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,261 miles; 106. Enterprise (GB), 1,262 miles; 107. Fortuna (E), 1,263 miles; 108. Rucanor (NZ), 1,264 miles; 109. Maiden (NZ), 1,265 miles; 110. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,266 miles; 111. The Card (S), 1,267 miles; 112. Merit (S), 1,268 miles; 113. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,269 miles; 114. Enterprise (GB), 1,270 miles; 115. Fortuna (E), 1,271 miles; 116. Rucanor (NZ), 1,272 miles; 117. Maiden (NZ), 1,273 miles; 118. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,274 miles; 119. The Card (S), 1,275 miles; 120. Merit (S), 1,276 miles; 121. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,277 miles; 122. Enterprise (GB), 1,278 miles; 123. Fortuna (E), 1,279 miles; 124. Rucanor (NZ), 1,280 miles; 125. Maiden (NZ), 1,281 miles; 126. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,282 miles; 127. The Card (S), 1,283 miles; 128. Merit (S), 1,284 miles; 129. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,285 miles; 130. Enterprise (GB), 1,286 miles; 131. Fortuna (E), 1,287 miles; 132. Rucanor (NZ), 1,288 miles; 133. Maiden (NZ), 1,289 miles; 134. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,290 miles; 135. The Card (S), 1,291 miles; 136. Merit (S), 1,292 miles; 137. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,293 miles; 138. Enterprise (GB), 1,294 miles; 139. Fortuna (E), 1,295 miles; 140. Rucanor (NZ), 1,296 miles; 141. Maiden (NZ), 1,297 miles; 142. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,298 miles; 143. The Card (S), 1,299 miles; 144. Merit (S), 1,300 miles; 145. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,301 miles; 146. Enterprise (GB), 1,302 miles; 147. Fortuna (E), 1,303 miles; 148. Rucanor (NZ), 1,304 miles; 149. Maiden (NZ), 1,305 miles; 150. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,306 miles; 151. The Card (S), 1,307 miles; 152. Merit (S), 1,308 miles; 153. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,309 miles; 154. Enterprise (GB), 1,310 miles; 155. Fortuna (E), 1,311 miles; 156. Rucanor (NZ), 1,312 miles; 157. Maiden (NZ), 1,313 miles; 158. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,314 miles; 159. The Card (S), 1,315 miles; 160. Merit (S), 1,316 miles; 161. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,317 miles; 162. Enterprise (GB), 1,318 miles; 163. Fortuna (E), 1,319 miles; 164. Rucanor (NZ), 1,320 miles; 165. Maiden (NZ), 1,321 miles; 166. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,322 miles; 167. The Card (S), 1,323 miles; 168. Merit (S), 1,324 miles; 169. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,325 miles; 170. Enterprise (GB), 1,326 miles; 171. Fortuna (E), 1,327 miles; 172. Rucanor (NZ), 1,328 miles; 173. Maiden (NZ), 1,329 miles; 174. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,330 miles; 175. The Card (S), 1,331 miles; 176. Merit (S), 1,332 miles; 177. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,333 miles; 178. Enterprise (GB), 1,334 miles; 179. Fortuna (E), 1,335 miles; 180. Rucanor (NZ), 1,336 miles; 181. Maiden (NZ), 1,337 miles; 182. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,338 miles; 183. The Card (S), 1,339 miles; 184. Merit (S), 1,340 miles; 185. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,341 miles; 186. Enterprise (GB), 1,342 miles; 187. Fortuna (E), 1,343 miles; 188. Rucanor (NZ), 1,344 miles; 189. Maiden (NZ), 1,345 miles; 190. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,346 miles; 191. The Card (S), 1,347 miles; 192. Merit (S), 1,348 miles; 193. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,349 miles; 194. Enterprise (GB), 1,350 miles; 195. Fortuna (E), 1,351 miles; 196. Rucanor (NZ), 1,352 miles; 197. Maiden (NZ), 1,353 miles; 198. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,354 miles; 199. The Card (S), 1,355 miles; 200. Merit (S), 1,356 miles; 201. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,357 miles; 202. Enterprise (GB), 1,358 miles; 203. Fortuna (E), 1,359 miles; 204. Rucanor (NZ), 1,360 miles; 205. Maiden (NZ), 1,361 miles; 206. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,362 miles; 207. The Card (S), 1,363 miles; 208. Merit (S), 1,364 miles; 209. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,365 miles; 210. Enterprise (GB), 1,366 miles; 211. Fortuna (E), 1,367 miles; 212. Rucanor (NZ), 1,368 miles; 213. Maiden (NZ), 1,369 miles; 214. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,370 miles; 215. The Card (S), 1,371 miles; 216. Merit (S), 1,372 miles; 217. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,373 miles; 218. Enterprise (GB), 1,374 miles; 219. Fortuna (E), 1,375 miles; 220. Rucanor (NZ), 1,376 miles; 221. Maiden (NZ), 1,377 miles; 222. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,378 miles; 223. The Card (S), 1,379 miles; 224. Merit (S), 1,380 miles; 225. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,381 miles; 226. Enterprise (GB), 1,382 miles; 227. Fortuna (E), 1,383 miles; 228. Rucanor (NZ), 1,384 miles; 229. Maiden (NZ), 1,385 miles; 230. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,386 miles; 231. The Card (S), 1,387 miles; 232. Merit (S), 1,388 miles; 233. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,389 miles; 234. Enterprise (GB), 1,390 miles; 235. Fortuna (E), 1,391 miles; 236. Rucanor (NZ), 1,392 miles; 237. Maiden (NZ), 1,393 miles; 238. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,394 miles; 239. The Card (S), 1,395 miles; 240. Merit (S), 1,396 miles; 241. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,397 miles; 242. Enterprise (GB), 1,398 miles; 243. Fortuna (E), 1,399 miles; 244. Rucanor (NZ), 1,400 miles; 245. Maiden (NZ), 1,401 miles; 246. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,402 miles; 247. The Card (S), 1,403 miles; 248. Merit (S), 1,404 miles; 249. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,405 miles; 250. Enterprise (GB), 1,406 miles; 251. Fortuna (E), 1,407 miles; 252. Rucanor (NZ), 1,408 miles; 253. Maiden (NZ), 1,409 miles; 254. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,410 miles; 255. The Card (S), 1,411 miles; 256. Merit (S), 1,412 miles; 257. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,413 miles; 258. Enterprise (GB), 1,414 miles; 259. Fortuna (E), 1,415 miles; 260. Rucanor (NZ), 1,416 miles; 261. Maiden (NZ), 1,417 miles; 262. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,418 miles; 263. The Card (S), 1,419 miles; 264. Merit (S), 1,420 miles; 265. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,421 miles; 266. Enterprise (GB), 1,422 miles; 267. Fortuna (E), 1,423 miles; 268. Rucanor (NZ), 1,424 miles; 269. Maiden (NZ), 1,425 miles; 270. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,426 miles; 271. The Card (S), 1,427 miles; 272. Merit (S), 1,428 miles; 273. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,429 miles; 274. Enterprise (GB), 1,430 miles; 275. Fortuna (E), 1,431 miles; 276. Rucanor (NZ), 1,432 miles; 277. Maiden (NZ), 1,433 miles; 278. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,434 miles; 279. The Card (S), 1,435 miles; 280. Merit (S), 1,436 miles; 281. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,437 miles; 282. Enterprise (GB), 1,438 miles; 283. Fortuna (E), 1,439 miles; 284. Rucanor (NZ), 1,440 miles; 285. Maiden (NZ), 1,441 miles; 286. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,442 miles; 287. The Card (S), 1,443 miles; 288. Merit (S), 1,444 miles; 289. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,445 miles; 290. Enterprise (GB), 1,446 miles; 291. Fortuna (E), 1,447 miles; 292. Rucanor (NZ), 1,448 miles; 293. Maiden (NZ), 1,449 miles; 294. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,450 miles; 295. The Card (S), 1,451 miles; 296. Merit (S), 1,452 miles; 297. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,453 miles; 298. Enterprise (GB), 1,454 miles; 299. Fortuna (E), 1,455 miles; 300. Rucanor (NZ), 1,456 miles; 301. Maiden (NZ), 1,457 miles; 302. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,458 miles; 303. The Card (S), 1,459 miles; 304. Merit (S), 1,460 miles; 305. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,461 miles; 306. Enterprise (GB), 1,462 miles; 307. Fortuna (E), 1,463 miles; 308. Rucanor (NZ), 1,464 miles; 309. Maiden (NZ), 1,465 miles; 310. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,466 miles; 311. The Card (S), 1,467 miles; 312. Merit (S), 1,468 miles; 313. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,469 miles; 314. Enterprise (GB), 1,470 miles; 315. Fortuna (E), 1,471 miles; 316. Rucanor (NZ), 1,472 miles; 317. Maiden (NZ), 1,473 miles; 318. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,474 miles; 319. The Card (S), 1,475 miles; 320. Merit (S), 1,476 miles; 321. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,477 miles; 322. Enterprise (GB), 1,478 miles; 323. Fortuna (E), 1,479 miles; 324. Rucanor (NZ), 1,480 miles; 325. Maiden (NZ), 1,481 miles; 326. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,482 miles; 327. The Card (S), 1,483 miles; 328. Merit (S), 1,484 miles; 329. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,485 miles; 330. Enterprise (GB), 1,486 miles; 331. Fortuna (E), 1,487 miles; 332. Rucanor (NZ), 1,488 miles; 333. Maiden (NZ), 1,489 miles; 334. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,490 miles; 335. The Card (S), 1,491 miles; 336. Merit (S), 1,492 miles; 337. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,493 miles; 338. Enterprise (GB), 1,494 miles; 339. Fortuna (E), 1,495 miles; 340. Rucanor (NZ), 1,496 miles; 341. Maiden (NZ), 1,497 miles; 342. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,498 miles; 343. The Card (S), 1,499 miles; 344. Merit (S), 1,500 miles; 345. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,501 miles; 346. Enterprise (GB), 1,502 miles; 347. Fortuna (E), 1,503 miles; 348. Rucanor (NZ), 1,504 miles; 349. Maiden (NZ), 1,505 miles; 350. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,506 miles; 351. The Card (S), 1,507 miles; 352. Merit (S), 1,508 miles; 353. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,509 miles; 354. Enterprise (GB), 1,510 miles; 355. Fortuna (E), 1,511 miles; 356. Rucanor (NZ), 1,512 miles; 357. Maiden (NZ), 1,513 miles; 358. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,514 miles; 359. The Card (S), 1,515 miles; 360. Merit (S), 1,516 miles; 361. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,517 miles; 362. Enterprise (GB), 1,518 miles; 363. Fortuna (E), 1,519 miles; 364. Rucanor (NZ), 1,520 miles; 365. Maiden (NZ), 1,521 miles; 366. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,522 miles; 367. The Card (S), 1,523 miles; 368. Merit (S), 1,524 miles; 369. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,525 miles; 370. Enterprise (GB), 1,526 miles; 371. Fortuna (E), 1,527 miles; 372. Rucanor (NZ), 1,528 miles; 373. Maiden (NZ), 1,529 miles; 374. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,530 miles; 375. The Card (S), 1,531 miles; 376. Merit (S), 1,532 miles; 377. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,533 miles; 378. Enterprise (GB), 1,534 miles; 379. Fortuna (E), 1,535 miles; 380. Rucanor (NZ), 1,536 miles; 381. Maiden (NZ), 1,537 miles; 382. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,538 miles; 383. The Card (S), 1,539 miles; 384. Merit (S), 1,540 miles; 385. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,541 miles; 386. Enterprise (GB), 1,542 miles; 387. Fortuna (E), 1,543 miles; 388. Rucanor (NZ), 1,544 miles; 389. Maiden (NZ), 1,545 miles; 390. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,546 miles; 391. The Card (S), 1,547 miles; 392. Merit (S), 1,548 miles; 393. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,549 miles; 394. Enterprise (GB), 1,550 miles; 395. Fortuna (E), 1,551 miles; 396. Rucanor (NZ), 1,552 miles; 397. Maiden (NZ), 1,553 miles; 398. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,554 miles; 399. The Card (S), 1,555 miles; 400. Merit (S), 1,556 miles; 401. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,557 miles; 402. Enterprise (GB), 1,558 miles; 403. Fortuna (E), 1,559 miles; 404. Rucanor (NZ), 1,560 miles; 405. Maiden (NZ), 1,561 miles; 406. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,562 miles; 407. The Card (S), 1,563 miles; 408. Merit (S), 1,564 miles; 409. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,565 miles; 410. Enterprise (GB), 1,566 miles; 411. Fortuna (E), 1,567 miles; 412. Rucanor (NZ), 1,568 miles; 413. Maiden (NZ), 1,569 miles; 414. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,570 miles; 415. The Card (S), 1,571 miles; 416. Merit (S), 1,572 miles; 417. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,573 miles; 418. Enterprise (GB), 1,574 miles; 419. Fortuna (E), 1,575 miles; 420. Rucanor (NZ), 1,576 miles; 421. Maiden (NZ), 1,577 miles; 422. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,578 miles; 423. The Card (S), 1,579 miles; 424. Merit (S), 1,580 miles; 425. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,581 miles; 426. Enterprise (GB), 1,582 miles; 427. Fortuna (E), 1,583 miles; 428. Rucanor (NZ), 1,584 miles; 429. Maiden (NZ), 1,585 miles; 430. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,586 miles; 431. The Card (S), 1,587 miles; 432. Merit (S), 1,588 miles; 433. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,589 miles; 434. Enterprise (GB), 1,590 miles; 435. Fortuna (E), 1,591 miles; 436. Rucanor (NZ), 1,592 miles; 437. Maiden (NZ), 1,593 miles; 438. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,594 miles; 439. The Card (S), 1,595 miles; 440. Merit (S), 1,596 miles; 441. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,597 miles; 442. Enterprise (GB), 1,598 miles; 443. Fortuna (E), 1,599 miles; 444. Rucanor (NZ), 1,600 miles; 445. Maiden (NZ), 1,601 miles; 446. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,602 miles; 447. The Card (S), 1,603 miles; 448. Merit (S), 1,604 miles; 449. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,605 miles; 450. Enterprise (GB), 1,606 miles; 451. Fortuna (E), 1,607 miles; 452. Rucanor (NZ), 1,608 miles; 453. Maiden (NZ), 1,609 miles; 454. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,610 miles; 455. The Card (S), 1,611 miles; 456. Merit (S), 1,612 miles; 457. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,613 miles; 458. Enterprise (GB), 1,614 miles; 459. Fortuna (E), 1,615 miles; 460. Rucanor (NZ), 1,616 miles; 461. Maiden (NZ), 1,617 miles; 462. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,618 miles; 463. The Card (S), 1,619 miles; 464. Merit (S), 1,620 miles; 465. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,621 miles; 466. Enterprise (GB), 1,622 miles; 467. Fortuna (E), 1,623 miles; 468. Rucanor (NZ), 1,624 miles; 469. Maiden (NZ), 1,625 miles; 470. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,626 miles; 471. The Card (S), 1,627 miles; 472. Merit (S), 1,628 miles; 473. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,629 miles; 474. Enterprise (GB), 1,630 miles; 475. Fortuna (E), 1,631 miles; 476. Rucanor (NZ), 1,632 miles; 477. Maiden (NZ), 1,633 miles; 478. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,634 miles; 479. The Card (S), 1,635 miles; 480. Merit (S), 1,636 miles; 481. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,637 miles; 482. Enterprise (GB), 1,638 miles; 483. Fortuna (E), 1,639 miles; 484. Rucanor (NZ), 1,640 miles; 485. Maiden (NZ), 1,641 miles; 486. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,642 miles; 487. The Card (S), 1,643 miles; 488. Merit (S), 1,644 miles; 489. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,645 miles; 490. Enterprise (GB), 1,646 miles; 491. Fortuna (E), 1,647 miles; 492. Rucanor (NZ), 1,648 miles; 493. Maiden (NZ), 1,649 miles; 494. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,650 miles; 495. The Card (S), 1,651 miles; 496. Merit (S), 1,652 miles; 497. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,653 miles; 498. Enterprise (GB), 1,654 miles; 499. Fortuna (E), 1,655 miles; 500. Rucanor (NZ), 1,656 miles; 501. Maiden (NZ), 1,657 miles; 502. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,658 miles; 503. The Card (S), 1,659 miles; 504. Merit (S), 1,660 miles; 505. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,661 miles; 506. Enterprise (GB), 1,662 miles; 507. Fortuna (E), 1,663 miles; 508. Rucanor (NZ), 1,664 miles; 509. Maiden (NZ), 1,665 miles; 510. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,666 miles; 511. The Card (S), 1,667 miles; 512. Merit (S), 1,668 miles; 513. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,669 miles; 514. Enterprise (GB), 1,670 miles; 515. Fortuna (E), 1,671 miles; 516. Rucanor (NZ), 1,672 miles; 517. Maiden (NZ), 1,673 miles; 518. L'Esprit de Liberte (F), 1,674 miles; 519. The Card (S), 1,675 miles; 520. Merit (S), 1,676 miles; 521. Bob Salmon (GB), 1,677 miles; 522. Enterprise (GB), 1,678 miles; 523. Fortuna (E), 1,679 miles; 524. Rucanor (NZ), 1,680 miles; 525. Maiden (NZ), 1,681 miles;

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Coppell's ace for poker-game replay

By Stuart Jones
Football Correspondent

THE destiny of the FA Cup, which could yet be claimed in the most cruel and unprecedented fashion, hangs in the balance. Manchester United do not know whether Gary Pallister will be available for tonight's replay of the final at Wembley and Crystal Palace will not reveal whether Ian Wright will be selected from the start.

Pallister, the most expensive footballer in British history, damaged an ankle during the 3-3 draw last Saturday and is still doubtful. United's central defender feels that he will be able to resume his partnership with Bruce but his manager, Alex Ferguson, is more pessimistic.

"The injury is worse than we thought," he said yesterday, "and he's behind schedule. I wanted him to be jogging yesterday but he wasn't. I will give him every chance but, at the moment, I regard him as no more than 50-50."

Ferguson added that Donaghy, whom he has not picked since March, will be the replacement but he declined to confirm whether Leighton, held responsible for at least two of Palace's goals, would be retained. The goalkeeper has at least endured the experience of a penalty shootout while he was at Aberdeen. If the scores are level after

Replay could create a spot of history

THE signs are that sooner rather than later, perhaps even tonight, an FA Cup final will be decided by a penalty contest when conventional play has failed to produce a winner (a Special Correspondent writes).

The penalty was introduced into the laws of the game in 1891. Not only is it still going strong, it is increasingly being used as a means of breaking the deadlock in cup matches across the world.

Last summer the Scottish FA decided that a penalty competition would resolve cup-ties if no decision had been reached after one replay and extra time. It reasoned that if it was good enough for the World and European cups, it should be good enough for the Scottish Cup.

extra time, the Cup will rest on penalty kicks. Nobody, least of all those who in turn place the ball on the spot, would relish the process of elimination, which is as brutally conclusive as a game of Russian roulette.

United, as at the weekend, are expected to win, as Steve Coppell, Palace's manager, concedes. "Everybody keeps telling me that the favourites always come through," he said. He saw the most recent evidence for himself. He was in the stands at Wembley when his former team dismissed Brighton 4-0 in the replay seven years ago.

He refused to announce his

The final would not even go to a replay, but he settled if necessary by sudden death, which is exactly what happened at Hampden Park last Saturday, when Aberdeen beat Celtic 9-8 on penalties after two hours of goalless play.

Meanwhile, the FA Cup final was also drawn after Crystal Palace and Manchester United shared six goals. They meet again at Wembley tonight, and if there is still no decision after another two hours' football, the Cup will be won and lost, for the first time, on penalty kicks. Yet as long ago as 1912, after three consecutive replays in the Cup Final, there were calls for the match to be played to a conclusion on the day, continuing beyond extra time if need be.

they can match United (they have not lost any of the three fixtures between the sides so far this season), he may ease the rigid restrictions which were initially imposed upon them. In his words, he could "give them more licence in the second game".

He would not disclose, though, whether he will again keep his ace up his sleeve. "If I said that Wright was playing from the start, that would allow United to plan accordingly. Since they don't know, that gives them an element of doubt." And severe anxiety as well.

With his explosive pace, Wright can run through any

defence, let alone United's comparatively ponderous back four. After his prolonged absence, however, he could burn himself out prematurely and Coppell is reluctant to risk losing his most dangerous weapon before sufficient damage has been inflicted.

Hughes, often irritatingly little more than a terrifying physical presence, spread fear across Palace through more legitimate and appealing conduct five days ago. He will do so again if O'Reilly, his marker, persists in filling the role of a diffident dancing partner. He must act instead like a ruthless rival.

Although Wallace played a part in all three of United's goals, he might have caused greater confusion. Given appropriately early service, with his speed and ability he could leave Pemberton spinning like a revolving door and unhinge Palace on the left flank, where they appear to be most vulnerable.

Nor, by his own admission, did Robson reach his usual high standard. Uncharacteristically, he seemed prepared to hand responsibility to his central midfield partner, Webb, but he still claimed the first equalizer, with the assistance of Pemberton, and he almost won the Cup with a header which bounced off a post towards the end of normal time.

He is unlikely to be so subdued again as his attempt to become the first captain to lift the trophy three times. Annually he is a contender for the player of the year award but is not yet a recipient of it: the unique honour would be some compensation to take with him to Italy next week.

Whatever the outcome, Palace have already won the continued financial support of their sponsors. Virgin Atlantic yesterday agreed to increase the value of the contract, worth more than £100,000 for the last two years, to £350,000 for next season, with an option to donate similar amounts for each of the following two years.

PROBABLE TEAMS

MANCHESTER UTD

J Leighton
P Ince
L Martin
S Bruce
M Phelan
G Pallister
B Robson (capt)
N Webb
B McClair
M Hughes
D Wallace

SUBSTITUTES: 12: M Robins;
13: M Donaghy.

CRYSTAL PALACE

M Martyn
J Pemberton
R Shaw
A Gray
G O'Reilly
A Thorn
P Barber
G Thomas (capt)
M Bright
J Salako
A Pardew

SUBSTITUTES: 12: I Wright;
13: D Madden.

Referee: A Gunn.

REPLAY FACTS

● This is the thirteenth FA Cup final to have gone to a replay. The others were in 1878, 1879, 1886, 1901, 1902, 1910, 1911, 1912, 1970, 1981, 1982 and 1983.

● On the three occasions when the replay has involved a London club against northern opponents, the Cup has been won by the London side. In 1901 Tottenham Hotspur beat Sheffield United 3-1 (after a 2-2 draw); in 1970 Chelsea beat Leeds United 2-1 (after a 2-2 draw) and in 1981 Tottenham beat Manchester City 3-2 (after a 1-1 draw).

● Manchester United were the last club to win the Cup in a replay, beating Brighton 4-0 in 1983.

● Should the match be undecided after extra time tonight, a penalty shootout will decide the Cup final for the first time. Leighton, the United goalkeeper, has experience of such

a situation. He was in the Aberdeen goal when Rangers beat them on penalties to win the Scottish League Cup two seasons ago.

● Bookmakers make United favourites to win the Cup. After 90 minutes United are 15-8 on to win with Palace 6-4 while including extra time United are 11-10 and Palace 12-5 with the draw 2-1. Hughes, the United forward, is a 7-1 favourite to score the first goal in 80 minutes with Wright, of Palace, 8-1 shot. Both scored twice in the 3-3 draw in first match on Saturday. O'Reilly had put Palace in front and Robson equalized for United.

● Victory for United would make Alex Ferguson the first post-war winning manager of both the English and Scottish FA cups, having won the trophy north of the border in 1982, 1983, 1984 and 1986.

Sheedy prevents untimely defeat

From Clive White
Dublin

Rep of Ireland..... 1
Finland..... 1

A PROUD Irish chest saved the Republic of Ireland considerable embarrassment and at the same time their unbeaten run in Dublin of 19 games here yesterday with just four minutes remaining of their last game before their devoted public prior to the World Cup finals.

When a cross from Houghton found its way Aldridge, who had come on as substitute, he thundered a shot against the underside of the crossbar. Without waiting for a favourable verdict from Roger Gifford, the Welsh referee, Sheedy, another second-half substitute, ran forward to chest the ball over the line for his first international goal since October 1988.

Typically, it was in a match in which the Irish had little to fear, against the makeweights of international football, that their record and newly-estab-

lished reputation came under threat. Finland presented a lively challenge and took the lead with a fine goal from Vesa Tauriainen, who volleyed a shot from 25 yards to perfection after 77 minutes.

The game, which also doubled as Liam Brady's testimonial, was for the most part a relatively muted affair before a relatively small crowd by Lansdowne Road's heady days of 31,556. Indeed, initially it responded only to Brady, enthusiastically cheering his every touch while wishing that he could turn the clock back.

Brady, who was establishing a new Republic record of 72 appearances, did his best to please everyone, including Jack Charlton, his manager, occasionally drawing ironic applause from the crowd when he closed defenders down in a most uncharacteristic manner.

But Brady is a creative force not a destructive one and that, thankfully, is how we will remember him. He earned a six-minute stay of execution

beyond the 20 minutes allotted him but when the time came to depart from the stage he could not hide his disappointment. A wave to the crowd, a short embrace with his executioner, a brief handshake with Townsend, his successor, and Brady was gone.

Townsend wasted no time in fulfilling the kind of demands which Brady was sometimes reluctant to do by flattening Parsi Tauriainen with his first challenge for the ball. But there is more to Townsend than brute force and before the opening half was over he had more than justified his position as Brady's successor.

Pushing forward vigorously from midfield he combined effectively with Casarino to carve out an opening for Byrne but the shot which the Le Havre forward thrashed goalwards was stopped by the legs of Huttunen, the Finnish goalkeeper.

There were warning signs that all was not well with the Republic side after just five minutes when Pateelainen, the Dundee United player, turned McCarthy with disturbing ease. Gradually the Irish warmed to their task.

A characteristically lengthy throw by McCarthy caught the Finns off balance and from it Byrne had a shot deflected away for a corner. Brady played it to the near post and O'Leary, his old Arsenal colleague, met it with a powerful header which Huttunen did well to push over the crossbar. But one had to search hard to find individual successes in the Irish team. Houghton on his return to the side after an absence of two games was definitely one.

REPUBLIC OF IRELAND: P Bonner (Goalkeeper); C Houghton (Tottenham Hotspur); S Seaman (Liverpool); D O'Leary (Arsenal); L Brady (West Ham United); P McGrath (Aston Villa); R Houghton (Liverpool); S Slaven (Middlesbrough); A Casarino (Aston Villa); J Byrne (Le Havre).
FINLAND: O Huttunen (Tampere); J Vuorinen (HJK); P Seaman (TPS Turku); A Hakkinen (TPS Turku); J Järvi (Kuopio); M Kovero (HJK); P Järvinen (Kuopio); P Tauriainen (HJK); J Laitinen (Pirkanmaa); M Wernberg (Lokomotiv, Moscow); R Pateelainen (Dundee United).
Referee: R Gifford (Wales).



Slipping away: Liam Brady stumbles after setting up an Irish attack on his farewell appearance against Finland at Lansdowne Road, Dublin

Leeds double ticket prices

By Ian Ross

THE supporters of Leeds United will pay the highest season-ticket prices in English football to watch their side next season. Big price increases have been announced just 11 days after Leeds ensured a return to the first division after an absence of eight years.

A season ticket for the main stand goes up nearly 2½ times from £145 to £355; the Lowfields Road stand price is up by 120 per cent, from £125 to £274, and a season ticket for the Kop terrace area will rise 102 per cent, from £70 to £142.

The price includes admission to all 19 first division fixtures next season and a guaranteed ticket for five cup matches.

By comparison, a main stand season ticket at Liverpool, the champions, will cost £135, although that covers

League fixtures only.

Rangers, the Scottish champions, will charge £238, again for league fixtures only. Tottenham Hotspur's price of £299 includes five cup ties. Arsenal will charge £312 (seven cup ties) and Everton £127 (League only).

Leslie Silver, the chairman of Leeds, defended the increases: they were designed to ensure that his club generated revenue to build a team which would be capable of challenging for honours.

"We are making a quantum leap into the first division and we are shooting for the very top. If we do not take the bull by the horns we will become just another, average first division club. We do not want a half-cooked football team in the city of Leeds," he said.

Ray Felt, the chairman of the supporters' club, said: "I am shocked by these steep

increases in price. I am sure that my reaction will be shared by most members of the supporters' club. Obviously, increases were expected if we are to compete with the top clubs but these do seem very high indeed."

Roy Schofield, the treasurer of the supporters' club, said: "I forecast that many supporters, particularly schoolchildren and those with low-paid jobs, will not be able to afford tickets. They will have to pick and choose the matches they wish to attend. Those who have been sitting may have to move to the terraces."

In 1989-90 the average attendance for a League match at Elland Road was more than 28,000, the fourth highest in the League. A section of terracing is to be converted into seating, reducing the ground's capacity to just 29,500.

Graham's hunt is at last rewarded

By Dennis Signy

DAVID Seaman, the Queen's Park Rangers and England player, joined Arsenal yesterday for £1.3 million, a British record transfer fee for a goalkeeper, surpassing the £1 million that Crystal Palace paid Bristol Rovers for Nigel Martyn earlier in the season. The move also equalled the world record set when Rinat Dasaev moved from Moscow Spartak to Seville, in Spain, in November 1988.

The signing of Seaman, aged 26, ends months of stalking by George Graham, the Arsenal manager, and leaves the way clear for John Lukic to move from Highbury, probably back to Leeds United, the first division newcomers, from whom he joined Arsenal for £50,000 in July 1983.

Although Seaman is likely to be named in Bobby Robson's England World Cup squad for July next week as back-up to Shilton and Chris Woods, there has been an adverse reaction from many Arsenal supporters to his replacing Lukic, a former England Under-21 international who is rated among the top goalkeepers in the League and is popular at Highbury.

Andy Townsend, the Norwich City midfielder player, is expected to meet Bobby Campbell, the Chelsea manager, in London today for talks about a £1.5 million transfer, but Robert Chase, the Norwich chairman, denied that Norwich had reached agreement on the Republic of Ireland international.

Fixture clash threat to Commonwealth Games

THE home nations face the prospect of fielding considerably weakened athletics teams at the next Commonwealth Games after the discovery that they are to begin only four days after the finish of the European championships. British officials are so worried at the proximity of the dates in August 1994 that they are seeking to have the Commonwealth Games put back.

"I am very seriously concerned and I have written to all the general secretaries at the Athletic Associations of the Commonwealth Games countries to see if it would be possible to make a three-week gap," Frank Dick, Britain's director of coaching, said yesterday. The European championships have been scheduled for August 9 to 14, in Helsinki, and the Commonwealth Games for August 18 to 28 in Victoria, Canada.

The Commonwealth Games athletics would probably begin on

DAVID POWELL on a problem for the 1994 sporting calendar

August 21, leaving only six days between the meetings. Competitors in the long-recovery events, such as the marathon, 10,000 metres, walks, heptathlon and decathlon, would have no chance of doing both.

According to Dick, however, even the sprinters, throwers and jumpers, for whom less recuperation time is generally needed, would be unable to give their best in both competitions. "The sprinters could be running every day in the Commonwealth Games and they would need a fair bit of time to regenerate because their legs will be finished," Dick said.

"They need time not just physically but also to get over emotional fatigue. It is not as if they will have come from just a couple of runs in Europe - the European champion-

ships require a long period of mental concentration. The other problem is that there is a big time change between Helsinki and Victoria [12 hours] and the athletes will need a good 10 to 12 days to get their training back up."

Although Dick is the national coach for Britain, he holds no such position with England, which sends a separate team to the Commonwealth Games, as do Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. At the Commonwealth Games in Auckland in January, England gave him no accreditation and he had to rely on the Falkland Islands team for a training track pass.

"I am in a delicate position because I am the director of coaching for Great Britain and I try not to interfere with the constituent nations of the UK, but I felt that, in the interests of the athletes and the public, I had to contact the Commonwealth Games secretaries in the hope that they will be able to

put pressure on their own countries."

Tony Ward, the British amateur Athletic Board and Amateur Athletic Association spokesman, said that the nearest of the dates had "come to light through some sort of accident. He said that representations would also be made to the European Athletic Association (EAA), which runs the European championships. "I think it will be difficult to get anything done," Ward added.

Ward's observations were borne out when Pierre Dasaev, the EAA secretary, was contacted yesterday. "We were not aware of the dates of the Commonwealth Games," Dasaev said. "There is no chance of our changing."

In 1966, when the European championships in Budapest began 17 days after the Commonwealth

Games in Kingston, Jamaica, had finished, only two British athletes, Lynn Davies, in the long jump, and Jim Hogan, in the marathon, won medals in the Europeans.

Eamonn Martin, the Commonwealth 10,000 metres champion, said that, if the dates stood, he would not consider defending his title, but would hope to run the distance in Helsinki. "Three weeks would be the minimum needed to do both," Martin said.

He also said that he will not run the 10,000 metres trial next month but would seek in Oslo on July 14 to gain a qualifying time for this year's European championships in Split. "I don't see the point - my gold medal will get me in the team," Martin said. But Ward said: "Eamonn is taking a tremendous gamble. If three people did under 28 minutes in the trial, he would be in a difficult position."

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